

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2021



## REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

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This Annual Review provides an overview of the activities and achievements carried out by REDRESS from April 2020 to March 2021. However, some articles cover developments in the relevant area of work up until the date of printing.

# REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors



## 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 civil wrong with individual responsibility, 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.

Gay Rights  
are  
Human Rights



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A woman holds a picture of her missing son as she demonstrates with 300 other mothers outside the Algerian Justice ministry in 2020 to demand information about the fate of their loved ones.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



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**Paul Lomas**

Chair

**“During the year, the trustees and staff adopted a new strategy, which sets out our priorities for 2025. REDRESS will continue its focus on justice and reparation for survivors of torture, with an emphasis on torture related to dissent and discrimination – where the use of torture is currently most acute and pernicious.”**

Welcome to our Annual Review for 2020-2021. We hope that the information that follows will give you a clear indication of all that REDRESS has achieved over the past year despite the very difficult circumstances. I wanted to record at the outset the remarkable job that the whole staff, including our interns, under the leadership of Rupert Skilbeck, have done in keeping REDRESS functioning, growing, and succeeding in our core mission of seeking redress for the victims of, and combatting, torture around the world through difficulties that we have all faced during the current pandemic.

During the year, the trustees and staff adopted a new strategy, which sets out our priorities for 2025. REDRESS will continue its focus on justice and reparation for survivors of torture, with an emphasis on torture related to dissent and discrimination – where the use of torture is currently most acute and pernicious. We will also support the wider anti-torture movement through a new programme on solidarity. The strategy is designed to ensure that REDRESS can effect real change in the fight against torture and, critically, the position of survivors. The strategy is available on our website – please read it!

Over the past year, REDRESS has had real impact. In the United Kingdom we were closely involved in the campaign to prevent impunity for torture committed by British service personnel abroad; ensured that the arbitrary detention and torture of UK citizens and residents remained at the top of the political

agenda, including the case of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe; and were instrumental in the use of Magnitsky sanctions as a new form of reparation against those responsible for torture. Our long-term engagement with Sudan has led to legislative change against the use of torture and the country signing the Convention against Torture.

All of this has been achieved through the tireless efforts of the REDRESS team and our partners around the world. We are, as always, enormously grateful to our many pro bono partners from the legal and academic community, and I wanted also to thank the trustees and patrons who support our work with their time and experience. During the year, we saw the retirement of Michael Birnbaum QC, who has provided guidance to the governance of REDRESS for many years as a trustee, and welcomed Karen Thompson as a new member of the board, bringing her expertise in charity finance to the organisation. We were also sad to hear of the deaths of two of our patrons, Lord Lester QC and Lord Judd, who have for many years supported and promoted the work of REDRESS. Finally, I want to thank our donors: without your critical support, we could not do this important work; but you also challenge us to be worthy of your support and to lift our standards in all that we do.

Thank you for reading this report. I hope it gives you a clear idea of what REDRESS is doing and will help you to engage with our work and mission.

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

**“During the course of the year we have begun to implement the leading judgment on LGBT+ torture in Latin America while exposing the same problem in Africa, supported a landmark decision on sexual violence in Kenya, and developed a new project to explore reparations for gender-based torture.”**

This annual report reviews the achievements and performance of REDRESS over the 12 months from April 2020 to March 2021. Despite the difficulties that the global pandemic has caused, our partners around the world have continued their work to support survivors of torture to obtain justice and reparation, even as governments have used the excuse of emergency powers to enhance repression and torture against the vulnerable.

This report sets out how we have continued our core work to provide justice and reparation to survivors of torture both in the United Kingdom and around the world. Under our new strategy we have challenged torture related to dissent, drawing attention to the use of enforced disappearance in Africa as a form of torture that is often used against human rights defenders, journalists, and others who oppose their governments. We have also started a new initiative relating to the widespread torture used against protesters in Belarus, and progressed individual cases relating to dissent.



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**Rupert Skilbeck**  
Director

Our new strategy also focuses on discriminatory torture, allowing us to challenge those who are tortured because of who they are. During the course of the year we have begun to implement the leading judgment on LGBT+ torture in Latin America while exposing the same problem in Africa, supported a landmark decision on sexual violence in Kenya, and developed a new project to explore reparations for gender-based torture.

REDRESS has continued to operate effectively during the year, thanks to the flexibility that many of our donors have shown, the dedication of our partners, and the hard work of the staff. As a result, we have ended the year in a positive financial situation, allowing us to start the planned growth that the trustees have agreed is necessary to put the charity on a stronger and more sustainable footing. This will allow us to develop some of the novel ideas in our new strategy, recruit new staff to support both our projects and operations, and put the organisation in a powerful position as it enters its 30th year.



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Richard Ratcliffe and his daughter Gabriella during a protest in London to demand the release of his wife Nazanin Ratcliffe, arbitrarily held in Iran.

# TOP IMPACTS

During the course of the year we have continued to support survivors of torture in obtaining justice and reparation, despite the difficulties brought by the global pandemic:

**Torture of UK citizens.** REDRESS continued to raise the cases of several UK citizens tortured abroad before the UK government and the UN, including those of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and Jagtar Singh Johal. In May 2021, this led to the UK Foreign Secretary publicly acknowledging for the first time that Nazanin's treatment amounted to torture.

**Amnesties for torture.** A coalition of human rights NGOs, including REDRESS, campaigned against provisions of the Overseas Operations Bill that would have provided an effective amnesty for British troops who commit torture and other international crimes. This eventually led

to the UK government accepting that the bill should not exempt the prosecution of international crimes.

**Hostage-taking.** REDRESS helped put the issue of arbitrary detention of foreign nationals for diplomatic leverage on the political agenda in the UK and internationally, through drawing attention to the Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe case and through REDRESS's evidence to the UK Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC). The UK government committed to ending hostage-taking for diplomatic leverage in its Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, and jointly launched an international initiative against this practice with Canada, the US, and 53 other states.



**Sudan anti-torture reforms.** In February 2021, following years of advocacy by REDRESS and national partners, the Sudanese Council of Ministers approved the ratification of the UN Convention against Torture (UNCAT) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED).

**Victims' rights in Uganda.** As part of a project on victims' rights, a major report from REDRESS and Impunity Watch explored the challenges victims in Uganda face to participating effectively in transitional justice processes. Key stakeholders were engaged in discussions in order to identify solutions to address these challenges, including stakeholders from the three arms of the Ugandan government.

**Sanctions against human rights abusers.** Following the submission by REDRESS of a dossier of evidence to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the UK sanctioned four Chinese officials and one government entity for their involvement in human rights violations against the Uyghur community in Xinjiang, in a joint action taken alongside the US, EU, and Canada.

**Enforced Disappearance in Africa.** REDRESS raised the profile of enforced disappearance in Africa as a form of torture that has received little attention, supporting the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in the

development of regional guidelines on the issue and promoting strategic litigation in four countries.

**Gender-Based Violence.** REDRESS's intervention in a landmark case in Kenya highlighted the right to reparation of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence post the 2007 election. In December 2020 the High Court in Kenya ruled that the government had violated the rights of four survivors, in a ruling which has important implications for torture prevention and accountability ahead of the 2022 Kenyan general elections.

**LGBT+ Torture.** We have pursued the implementation of the landmark 2020 judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which found the Peruvian government responsible for the torture of Azul Rojas Marín, an LGBT+ victim of police brutality. This was the first time the court considered discriminatory torture, and the ruling required Peru to adopt a series of measures to redress the damage done to Azul and to prevent the repetition of such torture.

**Strengthening the anti-torture movement.** REDRESS developed a comprehensive set of resources to help human rights lawyers and anti-torture activists around the world challenge torture and ill-treatment through holistic strategic litigation, and delivered workshops for human rights lawyers in Africa.

## THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

17 

Pursued 17 strategic legal cases.

8 

Advocated for legal and policy reforms through 8 campaigns.

24 

Produced 24 publications on policy and practical issues.

7 

Promoted the right of survivors through 7 social media campaigns.

84 

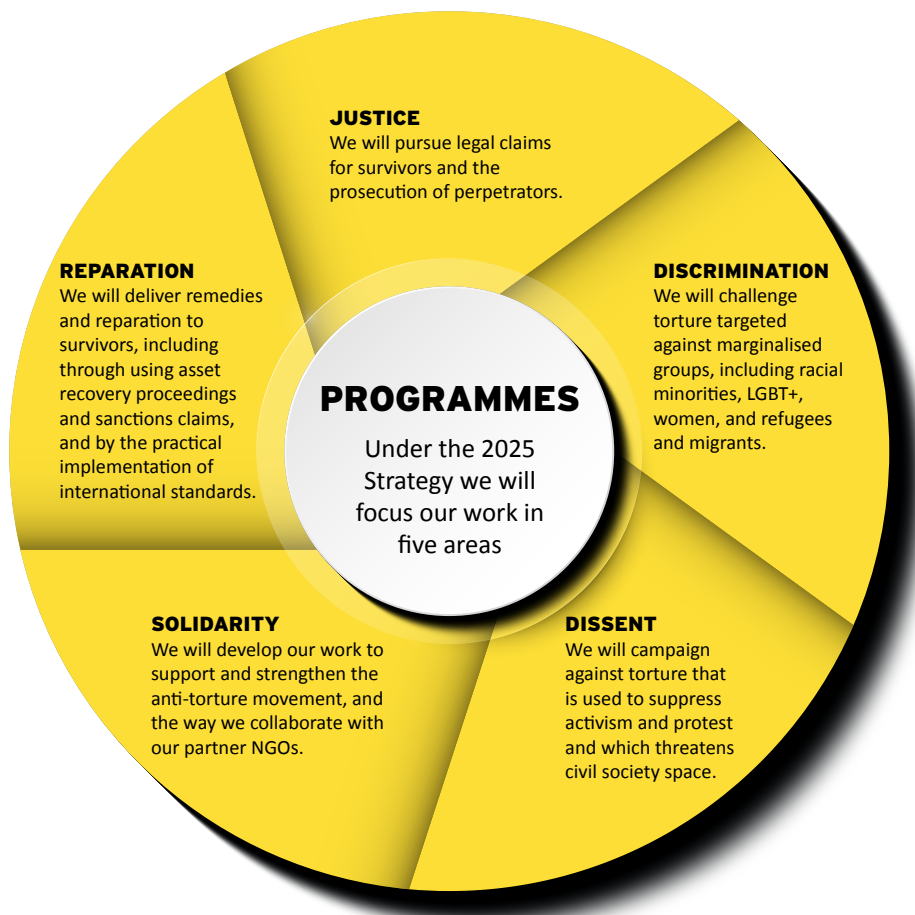
Was featured more than 84 times in UK and international media.

# STRATEGY 2025

Nearly 30 years after REDRESS was founded, torture remains a constant problem around the world, yet commands less attention than other global challenges. Populist governments now appear entrenched, a situation which may allow previous threats to the absolute prohibition against torture to be realised. The international framework for human rights protection is no longer universally accepted, and is threatened by exceptionalism and suffocated by financial restrictions.

There has been an increase in the use of torture against those who dissent, whether they are human rights defenders, activists, journalists, or protesters. Torture is regularly used against marginalised minorities, including refugees, migrants, women, and the LGBT+ community. At the same time, police forces in many countries continue to use torture as an ineffective alternative to proper investigations.

Our new strategy, approved by the Board of Trustees in 2021, sets out the priorities for the charity, and structures our work in five new programme areas.



## VISION

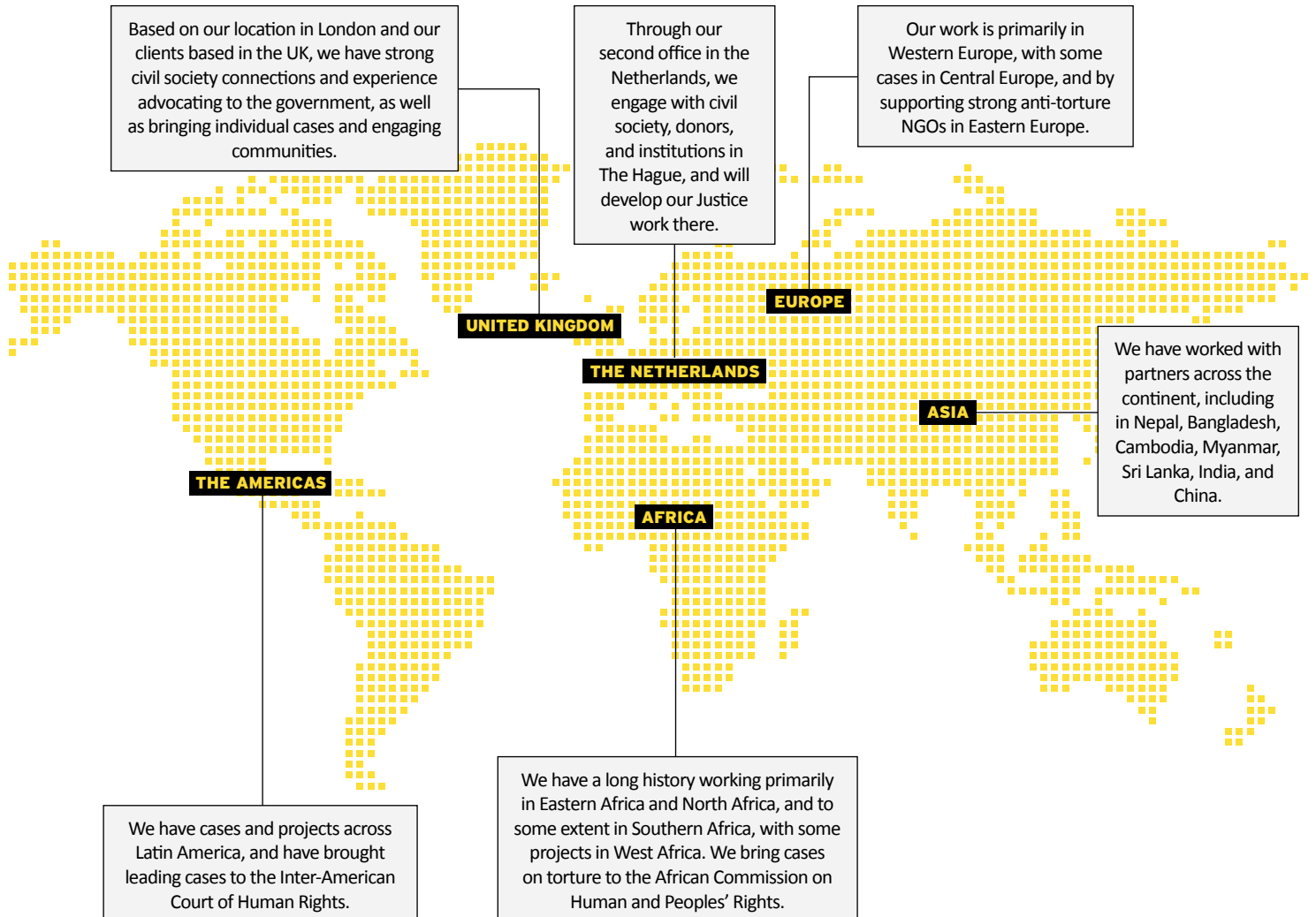
Our vision is a world without torture.

## MISSION

We deliver justice and reparation for survivors of torture, challenge impunity for perpetrators, and advocate for legal and policy reforms to combat torture.

# GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS

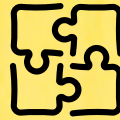
Our core method of working in collaboration with other parts of the anti-torture movement allows us to prioritise where we work, and to focus on issues and regions that lack effective coverage by other civil society groups.



# OUR VALUES



REDRESS has developed specific values through which we project an organisational culture that respects survivors, values partnerships, and ensures expertise:



## A SURVIVOR-CENTRED APPROACH

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



## COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

REDRESS works in partnership with other civil society groups in the countries where we operate rather than open offices.



## 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.

© REDRESS  
Patrick Ocen, a former child soldier, and Sylvia Acan, a victim of sexual violence during the conflict in Uganda, share their experiences during an event organised in The Hague by REDRESS and Impunity Watch.

# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS



© REDRESS

Leopoldo García Lucero (with the cane) was a torture survivor under Pinochet. He won a landmark case for torture survivors in exile before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights litigated by REDRESS.

## We pursue legal claims for survivors and the prosecution of perpetrators

There are many torture survivors living in the UK, both citizens and refugees. We bring legal claims on their behalf, 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 the police and the Crown Prosecution Service to prosecute perpetrators.

Our project-based justice work is focused on specific jurisdictions in Africa, the Americas, and Asia where there is impunity for torture and opportunities for justice. We bring cases to domestic and regional courts, the UN Treaty Bodies, and the International Criminal Court on behalf of survivors of torture around the world. We also work with prosecutors in Europe to encourage universal jurisdiction cases.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Following public and private advocacy by REDRESS and partners urging increased diplomatic action against the practice of hostage-taking, in September 2020 the UK, France, and Germany summoned their Iranian ambassadors in a coordinated diplomatic protest. 35 countries subsequently delivered a Joint Statement on Arbitrary Detention to the UN Human Rights Council denouncing the practice. In February 2021 the UK also backed a Canadian initiative against arbitrary detention of individuals for diplomatic leverage over another government.
- In December 2020, the UK Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee endorsed our position in a report calling on the UK government to improve the way it protects the rights of British nationals detained overseas, including through effective consular assistance, recognition of those who are arbitrarily detained for diplomatic leverage as 'hostages', and the imposition of targeted sanctions.
- After sustained campaigning from a wide coalition which included REDRESS and various other civil society organisations, the Overseas Operations Bill passed into law in April 2021 as the Overseas Operations Act without its initial proposal that would have created an effective amnesty for serious international crimes committed by UK service personnel.
- Throughout 2020 and 2021 Sudan implemented a number of historic law and policy reforms that strengthened legal protections against torture and removed immunities from prosecution to make accountability possible for members of the Sudanese security services, following years of research and advocacy by REDRESS, ACJPS, and various other Sudanese partner organisations. A major breakthrough was the ratification of the UNCAT and ICPPED by Sudan's Council of Ministers in October 2020.

# OUR LITIGATION

Our cases are strategic, which means that we represent individual clients but also leverage each case to challenge an underlying problem. We adopt a holistic approach, ensuring referrals for psycho-social support and accompanying survivors through the process. We also provide training and mentoring to partner NGOs on this technique.

During the course of the year we continued to bring legal claims on behalf of survivors of torture:

## INTERNATIONAL CASEWORK

- **Aravinda Dodanpegamage Asantha (Sri Lanka).** In July 2020 we sent updated information to the UN Human Rights Committee on a case filed in 2011 on behalf of Mr. Aravinda against Sri Lanka, challenging his torture by police officers.
- **Olivier Acuña (Mexico).** In October 2020 we made further arguments to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to reinforce the key elements of this case against Mexico, concerning the torture of journalist Olivier Acuña.
- **Mustafa al-Hawsawi (Guantanamo Bay).** In February 2021, we filed a complaint with the Investigatory Powers Tribunal on behalf of Mr al-Hawsawi, who is detained in Guantánamo Bay. The complaint is made against the UK intelligence services in relation to conduct alleged to have been carried out against him by or on behalf of the UK agencies in collusion with US agencies.
- **Smith and Others (South Africa).** REDRESS has filed a third-party intervention in a civil claim for torture before the High Court of South Africa to emphasise the importance of anti-torture measures as a form of reparation. The claim was filed on behalf of five prisoners who allege they were tortured in prison in 2014. This will be the first case on the Preventing and Combating of Torture Act of 2013, which implements the UN Convention against Torture.
- **Azul Rojas Marín (Peru).** In December 2020, following the landmark judgment of the Inter-American Court in March 2020, we participated in the first meeting with the Peruvian State to discuss implementation of the decision with our Peruvian partners and Azul.
- **Samuel Wazizi (Cameroon).** REDRESS filed a third-party intervention to the High Court in Cameroon in support of an application made by the family of the late journalist Samuel Ajiekah Abuwe (popularly known in Cameroon as Samuel Wazizi), who are seeking an inquiry into his arrest, disappearance, and death.

## UK CASEWORK

- **SL (Venezuela).** In June 2020 we submitted a merits submission to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, related to the death in prison of a British national in Venezuela in 2001 following a diabetic crisis and lack of medical assistance. We have requested an effective investigation, an official apology to her parents from the President of Venezuela, compensation, and measures of non-repetition.
- **Velauthapillai Renukaruban (Sri Lanka).** In June 2020 we filed a complaint before the UN Human Rights Committee on behalf of Renu, a UK citizen who was abducted, detained, and tortured by Sri Lankan officials when he visited Sri Lanka in 2016 to visit his elderly mother and to get married. He has since been diagnosed with a brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder, leaving him unable to work. The petition asks for compensation, satisfaction through a public apology and an independent investigation, and measures of non-repetition.
- **Albert Wilson (The Philippines).** In July 2020, REDRESS met with the UK government to seek their support of a claim against The Philippines in relation to Albert's torture and ill-treatment and The Philippines' lack of implementation of a 2003 UN Human Rights Committee decision.
- **Leopoldo García Lucero (Chile).** In February 2021, we made a further submission to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on the failure of Chile to fully implement its 2013 judgment in this case. The submission focused on the need for Chile to engage with the US process in extraditing one of the perpetrators of Leopoldo's torture to Chile, and the ongoing delays in the domestic Chilean prosecution process.
- **Unilever workers (Kenya).** In July 2020, together with SOMO, KITUO CHA SHARIA, The Corporate Responsibility Coalition (CORE), The African Coalition for Corporate Accountability (ACCA) and the law firm Leigh Day, REDRESS submitted a complaint against Unilever to the UN Working Group on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights on behalf of a group of 218 Kenyan nationals who worked on a Unilever tea plantation in Kenya and suffered torture and other forms of violence during the post-election period.
- **REDRESS submitted a dossier** of evidence to the UK War Crimes Unit relating to an individual perpetrator, whose name remains confidential at present.



UK cases being pursued in regional human rights bodies or through the UN



© Free Nazanin Campaign

“ Though their plight is not yet over, REDRESS has made significant progress in persuading the UK government to prioritise the cases of British citizens unlawfully detained in Iran. ”

## IN FOCUS

### PROTECTING VICTIMS OF HOSTAGE-TAKING FROM TORTURE

By Leanna Burnard, Legal Officer on Asset Recovery and Sanctions

 @LeannaBurnard

Though their plight is not yet over, this year REDRESS has made significant progress in persuading the UK government to prioritise the cases of British citizens who have been unlawfully detained in Iran for diplomatic leverage in recent years, otherwise known as ‘state hostage-taking’.

One such case is that of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, a British-Iranian charity worker who has been separated from her husband and young daughter, who live in the UK, since being arrested at a Tehran Airport in 2016, as she was returning to London, after visiting her family.

This year, REDRESS helped put the issue of the arbitrary detention of foreign nationals for diplomatic leverage on the political agenda in the UK and internally through Nazanin’s case and through evidence submitted to the UK Parliament’s Foreign Affairs Committee.

The UK government also committed to ending hostage-taking for diplomatic leverage in its Integrated Review of Secu-

urity, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, and jointly launched an international initiative against this practice with Canada, the US, and 53 other states.

The UN Special Rapporteur on Iran also raised Nazanin’s case in his 2021 report to the UN Human Rights Council following a meeting with REDRESS.

A major breakthrough was made after REDRESS presented a medico-legal report to the UK government and the UN in March 2021, detailing the severe physical and psychological torture Nazanin has been subjected to during her detention. In response, the former UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab acknowledged publicly for the first time that her treatment amounted to torture and that it was “very difficult to argue” against the characterisation that she was being held hostage.

UK media ran extensive coverage throughout the year exposing the extent of Nazanin’s torture and highlighting the UK government’s inaction on the diplomatic protection advocated by REDRESS and afforded to Nazanin in 2019. Coverage included the BBC 10 o’clock news, BBC Radio 4’s The Today programme, and a leading editorial in *The Times* urging the UK government to change its approach towards these cases.

REDRESS has more recently brought Nazanin’s case again forward with UN experts in response to the imposition of a second sentence in April 2021, and with the UK government, urging it to impose Magnitsky human rights sanctions against those responsible for hostage-taking.





©Fiona Lloyd-Davies/REDRESS

**“ We will remember ‘Don Leopoldo’ for his determination not only to hold the perpetrators of his torture to account, but also to prevent others from enduring the same kind of ill-treatment that he did, and we will be honoured to continue to press for the full accountability which his memory deserves.”**

## **IN FOCUS**

### **‘DON LEOPOLDO’ AND THE STRUGGLE FOR PINOCHET-ERA JUSTICE**

By **Eva Sanchis**, Head of Communications

 **@sanchise**

REDRESS is greatly saddened by the recent death of our client Leopoldo García Lucero, who died on 18 August 2021 in London, after a long illness.

‘Don Leopoldo’, as he was also known, achieved a landmark ruling in 2013 upholding the right of torture survivors in exile to justice and reparation, paving the way for similar litigation by other torture survivors.

A political supporter of President Salvador Allende, Don Leopoldo received refugee status in the UK in the 1970s after surviving torture under the regime of General Augusto Pinochet in Chile. As a result of the torture, he lost most of his teeth, his arm was broken in several places, his face was disfigured, and his spine was severely damaged. He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and was declared permanently disabled.

After Don Leopoldo, his wife and their three young daughters settled permanently in London, his wife María Elena supported the family, having lost all of their possessions during the coup. Despite the adversities he faced, he never lost his remarkable generosity and sense of humour.

REDRESS worked closely with Don Leopoldo, throughout his fight for justice, litigating a case on his behalf before

the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Americas’ highest human rights court. His case was finally decided on 28 August 2013. It was the first time the Inter-American Court had decided the case of a living survivor of torture under Pinochet’s dictatorship.

Chile was ordered to pay Leopoldo £20,000 for the lack of justice in his case, and ordered to complete a criminal investigation into his torture. The Court also urged Chile to provide adequate funding to cover the costs of Leopoldo’s medical treatment.

Don Leopoldo would often say that what he found most satisfying about the ruling is that “it sets a precedent for the whole world so that it doesn’t happen again.” On 7 March 2014, he received a formal apology and the compensation from the Chilean government at its embassy in London.

Unfortunately, eight years later Chile has failed to bring the perpetrators of Don Leopoldo’s torture to justice, so earlier this year, REDRESS made a further submission to the Inter-American Court. Among the issues we raised is the Chilean government’s failure to engage with the US in facilitating the extradition of one of the perpetrators of the torture from the US to Chile.

Don Leopoldo is survived by his wife, their three daughters and four grandchildren, to whom REDRESS extends our heartfelt sympathy. We will remember Don Leopoldo for his determination not only to hold the perpetrators of his torture to account, but also to prevent others from enduring the same kind of ill-treatment that he did, and we will be honoured to continue to press for the full accountability which his memory deserves.

# 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.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- In April 2020 we published an [implementation tool](#) with the Convention against Torture Initiative that sets out the legal and policy changes necessary to provide safeguards against the use of evidence obtained by torture, building on our joint report [Tainted by Torture](#) published in 2018.
- In March 2020, we launched a [Framework for Financial Accountability](#), identifying potential strategies for promoting financial accountability in the wake of torture and other serious human rights abuses, supported by

pro bono partners, including Latham & Watkins and Raeddas, with further informal input from law enforcement and other select partners.

- During the year, together with Human Rights First, we trained more than 200 representatives from civil society on the UK's new human rights regime, increasing their ability to file effective sanctions submissions. We have also been mentoring NGOs through individual meetings and reviewing draft submissions, including in relation to Myanmar, Colombia, Uganda, Venezuela, and others.
- Following the submission of an [extensive dossier](#) of evidence on human rights violations against the Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region of China to the FCDO, supported by 21 UK parliamentarians, on 22 March 2021, the UK sanctioned four Chinese officials and one government entity for their involvement in human rights violations against the Uyghur community in Xinjiang, in a joint action taken alongside the US, EU, and Canada.



[Read coverage of the Xinjiang sanctions in \*The Telegraph\*](#)



[Watch our film on asset recovery](#)



© Jeroen Oerlemans/PANOS Pictures

# IN FOCUS

## FIGHTING IMPUNITY THROUGH SANCTIONS AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

By Charlie Loudon, Legal Advisor

@CharlieLoudon

As part of our Reparations programme under REDRESS's new strategy, we have focused on interlinked initiatives for ensuring that perpetrators of torture are held accountable for their actions through financial means.

Our Asset Recovery Project explores the viability of legal routes to seize assets from human rights abusers and redistribute them as reparations to their victims. The connection between grand corruption and human rights abuses is well-documented, with recent examples of powerful human rights abusers who have illicitly amassed vast amounts of wealth over the course of their rule including Muammar Gaddafi, Hissène Habré, and Omar al-Bashir. Even when redistribution of assets to victims is not possible, freezing perpetrators' resources can prevent their use, delivering a measure of accountability for their crimes.

In line with this project, last year REDRESS developed a *Framework for Financial Accountability for Torture and Other Human Rights Abuses*, a tool to help identify, develop, and evaluate potential case strategies for pursuing financial accountability for torture and other serious human rights abuses. It sets out a number of models that can

promote financial accountability for perpetrators of torture and other human rights abuses.

The Framework was supported by the Knowledge Platform for Security and the Rule of Law, and was developed in consultation with other NGOs specialising in corruption and international accountability, the Crown Prosecution Service, the National Crime Agency (NCA), the Metropolitan Police, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), litigation funders, and specialist lawyers, among others.

A related form of achieving financial accountability for torturers is by imposing sanctions upon them. Human rights (Magnitsky) sanctions, which were first introduced by the UK government last year, enable States to target individuals who have committed serious violations of human rights by restricting their travel and freezing their assets.

After REDRESS submitted a dossier of evidence to the FCDO implicating various Chinese officials and entities in widespread human rights abuse perpetrated against the Uyghur population of Xinjiang, China, the UK government responded to our calls for the sanctioning of those responsible in March 2021. In a joint action taken alongside the US, EU, and Canada, they imposed sanctions on four Chinese officials and one entity.

More recently, the Free Nazanin campaign and REDRESS, supported by victims of hostage-taking in Iran, have submitted a dossier to the new UK Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss, asking her to impose Magnitsky sanctions on ten Iranian officials involved in the arbitrary detention of foreign nationals for diplomatic leverage, otherwise known as 'state hostage-taking'.



© SOPA Images Ltd/Alamy Stock Photo

An activist holds a placard during a march in Ukraine, to denounce the violence against civilians in Belarus after the presidential election.

## 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, making 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 respond to this problem in specific jurisdictions with projects that use strategic litigation to highlight the issue, determine responsibility, and push for policy reform.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- In August 2020, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights [adopted a resolution](#) committing to drafting and adopting regional Guidelines for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in Africa. The guidelines aim to offer guidance to African States on the measures necessary for eradicating and preventing enforced disappearance and to improve the situation of victims, significantly raising the profile of the issue in Africa. It followed concerted advocacy by REDRESS and the hosting of three expert meetings on the development of the guidelines, which were attended by more than 30 experts on human rights and enforced disappearance in Africa and worldwide, including members of relevant UN bodies, civil society, and academia, as well as victims.
- We worked with partners in Algeria, Libya, Sudan and Zimbabwe to challenge enforced disappearance as a particular form of torture that has not been adequately addressed in law or policy. The activities contributed to raising the international profile of this crime through regular discussion with the UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances, the African Commission, victims and civil society, focusing on how to collaboratively increase awareness of enforced disappearance in Africa and how to strengthen responses to the problem. Multiple webinars on the subject were also held, hosting panellists from the United Nations, the African Commission, members of African civil society organisations, and victims and relatives of victims of enforced disappearance. One of these [was held](#) on 30 August 2020 in recognition of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances.
- In March 2021 the International Accountability Platform for Belarus [was launched](#), a new initiative funded by 25 States to ensure the effective documentation of the widespread torture perpetuated against anti-government protestors in Belarus in August 2020. REDRESS will act as the Platform's international co-lead along with the Danish NGO Dignity.



© Reuters/Alamy Stock Photo

# IN FOCUS

## THE FORGOTTEN VICTIMS: ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE IN AFRICA

By Eva Nudd, Legal Advisor

 @NuddEva

After a lifetime of fleeing religious persecution, Eritrean Tariku Asefa began a journey to the UK to seek asylum. In 2014, as he was undergoing the perilous journey to Europe, he was forcibly disappeared in Libya for over a year in an illegal detention center where he was tortured and subjected to forced labour.

Enforced disappearance is a practice used by governments across Africa, but also by non-state actors, to suppress dissent and political opposition, as well as in the context of migration and mass displacement. States' denial of their use of enforced disappearance and a lack of official data makes it hard to know the full magnitude of enforced disappearance on the continent. However, the UN Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances has, since its inception in 1980, received over 4,000 claims from victims in Africa.

Victims of enforced disappearances are put outside the protection of the law, frequently tortured, and often killed. For their families, the uncertainty about the fate of their loved ones causes intolerable suffering as they continue to live without knowing what happened to their loved one and hope for their return. Yet the perpetrators of this heinous crime often go unpunished as widespread impunity and

a lack of access to justice for victims remains the norm across the continent.

REDRESS's Enforced Disappearance in Africa project is a joint effort with Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), MENA Rights Group, Lawyers for Justice in Libya (LFJL) and the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS) to raise awareness on enforced disappearances in Zimbabwe, Algeria, Libya and Sudan. It also aims to tackle the issue of enforced disappearance on the African continent by bringing the issue to the attention of key stakeholders, while empowering the families of victims to pursue justice and accountability.

This year REDRESS and partners published several detailed reports with recommendations for legal and policy reform, highlighting the plight of those seeking justice, the lack of remedies available to victims, and the widespread use of the practice by governments in Africa. We also engaged with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), the UN Working Group on Involuntary or Enforced Disappearances (UN WGEID), the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, human rights lawyers, victims, and civil society through webinars, litigation workshops, and remote discussions.

Following our efforts, in August 2020 the ACHPR commissioned the drafting of regional Guidelines for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in Africa. The guidelines aim to offer guidance to African States on the measures necessary for eradicating and preventing enforced disappearance and to improve the situation of victims.

Additionally, after dedicated work in Sudan, the Sudanese transitional government ratified the Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance in August 2021, which came into force in September.



© Marcus Rose/Panos Pictures  
A woman holds a giant rainbow flag at Durban Gay Pride in South Africa.

# DISCRIMINATION

## We challenge torture used against marginalised and excluded minorities

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

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- In July 2020, following many years of advocacy by REDRESS, the Sudanese government announced the abolition of the crime of apostasy, which had up until then been punishable with the death penalty. We continue working on the case of Mariam Yahia Ibrahim before the African Commission; her claim highlights the violation of her rights that took place when she was convicted of apostasy and sentenced to death, together with 100 lashes for adultery, for marrying a Christian man.
- On December 10th 2020, UN Human Rights Day, the Kenyan High Court issued a landmark judgment against the Kenyan government brought by the Coalition on Violence Against Women (COVAW) for failing to protect, investigate, and prosecute sexual and gender-based violence following the 2007-2008 Kenyan election. The case

was filed in 2013, and REDRESS intervened as amicus curiae on the appropriate reparations. The court awarded four petitioners damages of 4 million Kenyan Shillings. REDRESS will work to support the implementation of the reparations awarded.

- In 2020, REDRESS launched a new project in collaboration with the Global Survivors Fund to conduct studies on the delivery of reparations to victims of conflict-related sexual violence in various countries, including Chad, Bangladesh, and Cambodia.
- REDRESS commenced work on a three-year project in collaboration with the law firm Allen & Overy, which will build on the decision by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on the Azul Rojas Marín case to provide African LGBT+ torture survivors a route to justice and introduce stronger legal protections against discriminatory torture. In March 2021, to mark the one-year anniversary of the Azul judgment we collaborated with the office of Víctor Madrigal-Borloz, the UN Independent Expert on Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, to promote a social media campaign to highlight the importance of the decision.



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# IN FOCUS

## MOVING TOWARDS THE ERADICATION OF TORTURE IN SUDAN

By Emma DiNapoli, Legal Fellow

 @EmmaDiNapoli

In nearly two decades of working on Sudan, REDRESS has been involved in some of the country's major progressions towards protecting and prioritising human rights.

After a decade of calls from REDRESS and Sudanese partners for improvements to Sudan's laws on torture, the current transitional government made critical changes to Sudan's criminal laws in 2020. These changes included reforms prohibiting the torture of those accused of a crime and strengthening the penalties for public officials involved in carrying out torture.

Sudan later undertook additional critical reforms abolishing the crime of apostasy, criminalising female genital mutilation, and removing requirements for women to seek permission from a male relative to travel with children in keeping with recommendations in REDRESS and the African Centre of Justice and Peace Studies' 2019 *A Way forward?* report.

The crime of apostasy was used against one of our clients, Mariam Yahia Ibraheem, when she was sentenced to death, together with 100 lashes for adultery, for marrying a Christian man, in 2014, and we have continued to pursue her case before the African Commission highlighting the violations of her rights that took place at the time.

The 2019 repeal of Sudan's discriminatory Public Order Laws, which disproportionately targeted women and marginalised groups, also followed years of advocacy and came after the publication of REDRESS's 2017 dedicated policy report *Criminalisation of Women in Sudan: A Need for Fundamental Reform*.

More recently, Sudan has taken another historic step: the ratification of both the UN Convention against Torture (UNCAT) and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (ICPPED), depositing the required instruments of ratification with the UN Secretary-General in August 2021.

The treaties, which are the two main international treaties banning torture and enforced disappearances, entered into force on 9 September 2021. By ratifying them, the Sudanese government makes a legally binding commitment to prevent cases of torture and enforced disappearance in Sudan, or where such events have already taken place to prosecute and remedy them.

This follows years of advocacy efforts by REDRESS, Sudanese activists, and international partners, including a joint call to the Sudanese transitional government by over 25 civil society organisations in 2020, and a joint submission with the People's Legal Aid Centre (PLACE) to the UN Human Rights Council in 2021, where we reiterated the importance of ratifying both treaties.

REDRESS continues to advocate before the transitional government so it ensures the implementation of the treaties' provisions, as well as ratifies other key human rights treaties such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.



# SOLIDARITY

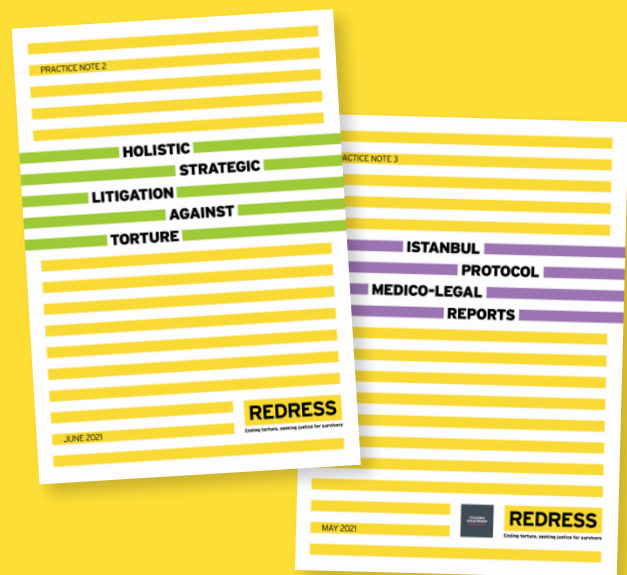
## We support and strengthen the anti-torture movement

For nearly 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 the 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

- REDRESS continued to lead and participate in key networks to bring together the anti-torture movement such as the Pan-African Reparations Initiative, the Coalition for the ICC, the European Genocide Network (promoting effective prosecutions under universal jurisdiction), and GQUAL (promoting gender parity in international human rights bodies).
- We produced a [series of practice notes](#) on holistic strategic litigation and [training materials](#) on strategic litigation,

as well as delivering two litigation workshops for human rights lawyers with project partners MENA Rights Group, Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, and Trauma Treatment International.



[Watch our video on the UN Convention against Torture](#)





# IN FOCUS

## THE SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN THAT FOUGHT AMNESTIES FOR TORTURE IN THE UK

By Chris Esdaile, Legal Advisor

 @ChrisEsdaile

When the Overseas Operations Bill was initially proposed in 2020, its stated purpose was to protect UK service personnel from vexatious claims against them. However, it quickly became clear that the bill would breach international legal standards and violate international law.

The proposal was that where five years had elapsed, there would be a presumption against the prosecution of UK service personnel where they were alleged to have committed international crimes, including torture, grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

International law requires that all states must prosecute such offences, no matter where they occur. In its original state, the Bill would have instead created an effective amnesty for such crimes, preventing survivors of torture and ill-treatment by UK service personnel abroad from obtaining justice for the crimes committed against them.

Similarly, the Bill proposed removing the UK Courts' discretion to extend time limits to bring civil claims for reparations. There are various good reasons why survivors may not be able to bring civil claims against the Ministry of Defence (MOD) within these time limits, not least if the conflict is ongoing or if the UK forces remain in occupation.

REDRESS shared two detailed briefing notes with UK parliamentarians which laid out how the Bill could breach international standards that had become part of British law. We also joined a concerted campaign by a coalition of human rights organisations and civil society, which in April 2021 led to the House of Lords inflicting a defeat on the government when peers expressed concern that the original Bill would undermine the UK's global leadership on human rights. As a result, the government accepted some amendments to the Bill, and excluded any international crimes from its provisions relating to prosecutions.

Other human rights organisations who were part of the campaign included Freedom from Torture, Amnesty International, Liberty, Human Rights Watch, and Reprieve.

As a human rights organisation which brings legal claims around the world on behalf of British citizens who have been tortured and ill-treated abroad, REDRESS is pleased that the British government eventually upheld the absolute prohibition of torture.

Unfortunately, the new law does restrict the ability of survivors of torture and ill-treatment to bring civil claims for damages in the UK against the MOD in relation to acts that have taken place abroad. These new restrictions could well impact on the ability of survivors to obtain reparations in the future.

The government has also recently announced that it will seek to introduce a similar amnesty for serious crimes committed in relation to Northern Ireland and REDRESS will continue to challenge amnesties for torture and ill-treatment. They pose unacceptable obstacles to victims in their efforts to obtain redress and contribute to a climate of impunity.

# OUR 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.

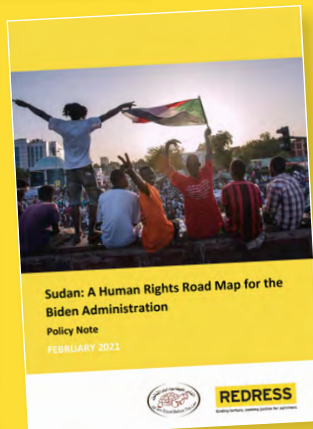
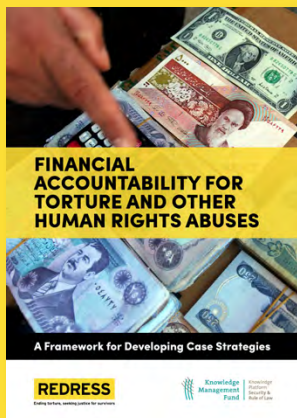
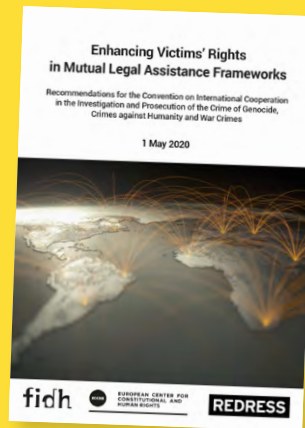
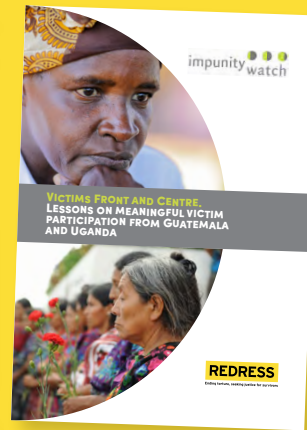
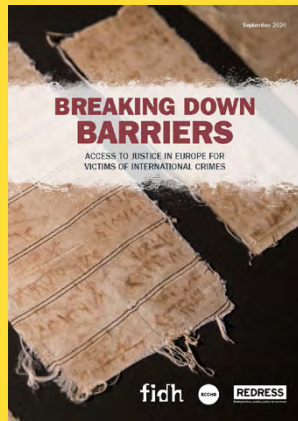
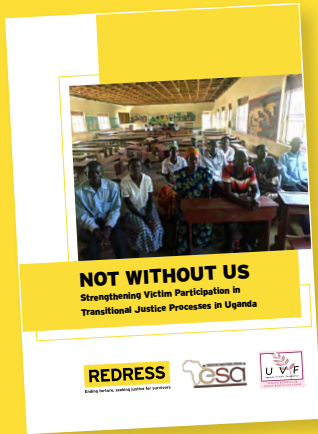
During the course of the year we published four major policy reports, additional briefings providing legal analysis, and more than 20 policy reform recommendations on specific issues.

## 2020

- [Not Without Us: Strengthening Victim Participation in Transitional Justice Processes in Uganda](#) with a [Report Summary](#)
- [Breaking Down Barriers: Access to Justice in Europe for Victims of International Crimes](#) with a [Policy Briefing](#)
- Briefing Note: [The Judgment in Azul Rojas Marín v Peru](#)
- Policy Submission: [Enhancing Victims' Rights in Mutual Legal Assistance Networks](#)
- Policy Briefing: [Financial Accountability For Perpetrators of Torture and Other Serious Human Rights Abuses](#)
- Briefing Note: [Second Court Case against Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe](#)
- Briefing Paper: [Sudan: A Hopeful Yet Fragile Peace](#)
- Briefing Note: [The UK Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime](#)

## 2021

- [Victims Front and Centre: Lessons on Meaningful Victim Participation from Guatemala and Uganda](#), with a [Report Executive](#)
- Jagtar Singh Johal: [Briefing on Legal Right to Medical Treatment](#)
- The UK and Iran: [Evidence Submitted to the UK Foreign Affairs Committee Inquiry](#)
- Briefing Paper: [The Overseas Operations Bill](#)
- Legal Analysis: [A General Amnesty in Sudan](#)
- Policy Note: [Sudan: A human rights road map for the Biden administration](#)
- Policy Briefing: [Outlining Legal and Institutional Reforms in Sudan](#)
- [Upholding the Absolute Ban on Torture: Submission to the Joint Committee on Human Rights](#), and [Submission to the Independent Review of the Human Rights Act](#)
- [The Framework on Financial Accountability for Torture](#)



# COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA



We support our litigation and policy advocacy through the press and social media, influencing stakeholders, drawing attention to the issues we work on, ensuring that survivors have a voice, and raising our profile to enhance our influence.



+84

mentions in UK and international media.



600,000

people reached through seven social media campaigns.



+124,000

users connected with REDRESS through the website.



+1,200

people joined our eight webinars.



+20,000

people watched one of our 18 video.

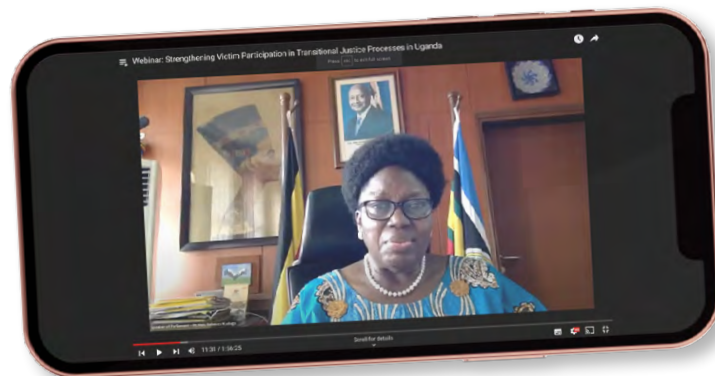


We continued to develop high-quality media coverage of our work to draw attention to the issue of torture and influence key stakeholders:

- In April 2020, the landmark judgment in the Azul Rojas Marín case was widely covered in Europe and in the Americas, with the decision being featured in more than 52 outlets.
- Throughout the year, the case of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe generated significant media coverage, including a piece in the BBC investigative documentary *Panorama*, *Hostage in Iran*, and a *Long Read* in *The Times* on the UK government's inaction on the diplomatic protection afforded to Nazanin. A medico-legal report commissioned by REDRESS highlighting the extent of Nazanin's torture was featured on the BBC 10 o'clock news, *The Today Programme*, an op-ed by comedian Shaparak Khorsandi, and a leading editorial in *The Times* urging the UK government to change its approach towards these cases.
- In November 2020, an exclusive in *The Telegraph* highlighted REDRESS's work on sanctions against senior Chinese officials in relation to human rights abuses against the Uyghur.
- In December 2020, *the Guardian* featured our work on consular protection.
- Our work in Sudan received significant media coverage throughout the year in international and local media in English and Arabic.
- Our expertise was featured in influential blogs, including in EJIL-Talk, Lawfare, and Just Security.



[Listen to the REDRESS podcast](#)



The Rt Hon Rebecca Kadaga, Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, during the webinar 'Not Without Us', organised by REDRESS and ESA.

## OUR WEBINARS

We sought to respond to the Covid-19 lockdown by enhancing our online events, enabling us to engage with civil society, survivor communities, and government policy makers. We organised eight major webinars and participated in many others, including:

- The Azul Case: Protecting LGBT+ Persons from Torture and Ill-Treatment, which brought together experts on strategic litigation from the Americas, Europe, and Africa to discuss the significance of the case. To promote further discussion, we released videos by the former UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Juan Méndez and the UN Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity Víctor Madrigal-Borloz.
- The Forgotten Victims of Enforced Disappearance in Africa, which marked the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances on 30 August.
- Not Without Us: Strengthening Victim Participation in Transitional Processes in Uganda, which included victims and high-level representatives from the three branches of the Ugandan government.
- Pathways to Justice for Victims in Sudan: Lessons from other African countries, which brought together experts in transitional justice from Uganda, Kenya, The Gambia, Tunisia, and Sudan.
- Victim Participation and Reparations at the ICC: Assessing the Impact of the Independent Expert Review, featuring officials from the primary organs of the ICC.

# THANK YOU!

## Funders

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The Trustees are specially indebted for the ongoing support of the AB Charitable Trust, Bay & Paul Foundations, Bromley Trust, European Union, John Armitage Charitable Trust, 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, Baring Foundation, Clifford Chance Foundation, Convention against Torture Initiative, David & Ruth Lewis Family Charitable Foundation, DLA Piper, Global Survivors Fund, Hogan Lovells, Joffe Charitable Trust, Knowledge Management Fund, Linklaters, Matrix Causes Fund, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands, National Endowment for Democracy, Oakdale Trust, People's Postcode Trust, Queen's University Belfast, Souter Charitable Trust, and Southall Trust for their support and funding during this time.

## Individual donors

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We would like to thank the runners who participated in the 2020 Virtual Virgin Money London Marathon for generously spending their time and effort on raising funds for REDRESS: Chris Loudon, Eleanor Piper, Hjalti Rognvaldsson, George Shirlaw, Walker Syachalinga, and John White. We are grateful to our regular supporters and to those who have continued to promote and contribute to our Help Bring Nazanin Home campaign.

We would like to thank all of our donors and supporters for their commitment over what has been a difficult year.

Sustaining our work during such a challenging time would not be possible without your continued support, for which we are very grateful.

## Interns, Fellows, Volunteers, and other supporters

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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 Mariana Batista, Jodie Chun, Tom Davies, Margaret Gallagher, Dariana Gryaznova, Ines Jimenez, Amy Kerr, Sarah Khan, Daniel Mackenzie, Dorine Nauleau, Ludivine Plenchette, Renata Politi, Andrea Rogers, Lisa Schmidt, Lynn Temp, Amela Tokic, Wiebke Hangst, and Janna Wermeskerten. We also want to thank our fellows Lina Abdelhafiz, Ana Cutts, Emma DiNapoli, Elizabeth Hartley, Mariana Hou and Celeste Kmiotek, as well as our trainees Nicole Jocelyn and Lina Smith Buhl. We are also very grateful to a number of lawyers who worked pro bono for a period of time with REDRESS: Natalia Kubescu, Jonny McQuitty, Matthew McGonagle, and Megan Smith. We are furthermore very grateful to Vilmar Luiz for his tireless work designing our materials.

## Clinical and related human rights programmes

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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, 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 Dr Clara Sandoval, Professor Lorna McGregor, Dr Carla Ferstman, and Dr Daragh Murray of the University of Essex; Dr Luke Moffett of Queen's 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 Vlaming; Dr Sam Raphael of the University of Westminster; Professor Frans Viljoen and 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**

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Special thanks are also due to civil society partners and other supporters and partners throughout the world who continue to share our vision for a world without torture

and for the need to achieve justice for victims. In particular, we are grateful to Advocacy Forum (Nepal); African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies; African Centre for Torture Victims (Uganda); All members of the Pan-African Reparation Initiative (PARI); All members of the Victims' Rights Working Group; Amnesty International Nederland; Amnesty International UK; Amnesty International South Africa; Aristata Capital; Association for the Prevention of Torture; ATPDH (Chad); Bangladesh Legal Aid Services (BLAST); Center for Justice and Accountability; Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation; Chatham House; 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; and the Global Survivors Fund (GSF).

We are also grateful to: FIACAT; FIDH; Freedom from Torture; Free Nazanin Campaign; Genocide Network Secretariat; Global Witness; Greek Helsinki Monitor; 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; Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti; International Federation of Human Rights; International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims; International Truth and Justice Project; Joint Council for

the Welfare of Immigrants; Kdei Karuna (Cambodia); Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR); Kenyan Human Rights Commission (KHRC); Legal Action Worldwide; Lawyers for Justice in Libya; Liberty; Medical Justice; Mahmoud Elsheikh; MENA Rights Group; Naripokkho (Bangladesh); Nuhanovic Foundation; OMCT; Open Society Justice Initiative; Outright; Oxford Human Rights Hub; Pan African ILGA; Parliamentarians for Global Action; Public Interest Law and Policy Group; Project Expedite Justice; PROMSEX (Peru); Reprieve; Rights and Accountability in Development (RAID); Southern Africa Litigation Centre; The Sentry; Spotlight on Corruption; Syrian Justice and Accountability Centre; SOMO (Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations); Stichting LOS; Transitional Justice Centre; Transparency International UK; TRIAL International; United Kingdom Anti-Corruption Coalition (UKACC); Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights; and Waging Peace.

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

## **Law firms, barristers, and investigators**

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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 Alison Macdonald QC at Essex Court Chambers; Allen & Overy; David Pretorius, Kate Shoeman and Mandisi Rusa at Bowmans (South Africa); Caroline Buisman; Clifford Chance; Debevoise & Plimpton; Dentons; DLA Piper; Frans-Willem Verbaas; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer; Gibson Dunn; Hickman & Rose; Guy Vassall-Adams QC at Matrix Chambers; 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; Sam Mohochi (Kenya); Shaheed Fatima 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.



# PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The REDRESS 2025 Strategy sets out some new and innovative areas of work, including:



A new initiative to seek to recover the assets of perpetrators of torture to be paid as reparations to their victims, and ensuring perpetrators are sanctioned.



Delivering more campaigns in the UK on key issues, such as more effective prosecution of torturers in the UK and upholding the absolute ban on torture.



Enhancing our ability to call for policy and legal reform through advocacy to national governments, regional bodies, and the United Nations.



Providing support and solidarity with our partners around the world, strengthening the anti-torture movement.



Building our capacity to engage with survivor communities in the UK through a community engagement programme.

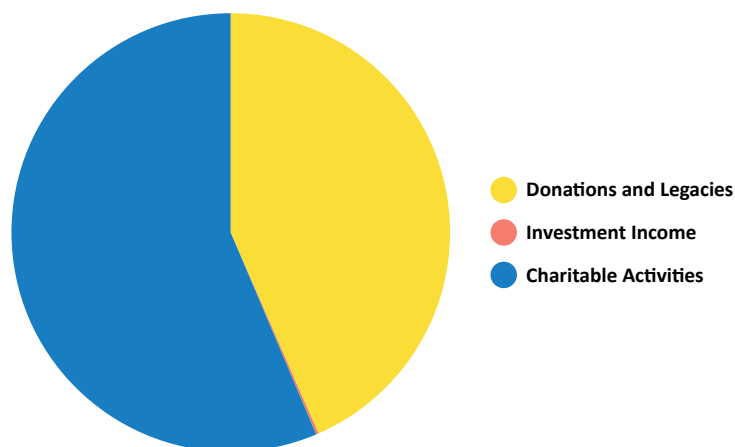
© David Rose/Panos Pictures

Pro-democracy protests in Sudan after the ousting of President Omar al-Bashir, whose 30-year rule led to widespread human rights abuses.

# FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

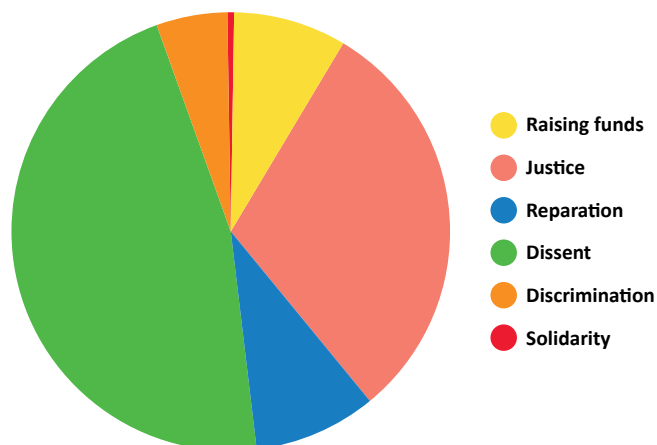
## INCOME 2020-21

Donations and Legacies	£474,429
Investment Income	£470
Charitable Activities	£613,973
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,088,872</b>



## EXPENDITURE 2020-2021

Raising funds	£88,587
Justice	£309,789
Reparation	£92,337
Dissent	£473,162
Discrimination	£54,848
Solidarity	£1,773
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,020,496</b>



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

For full details, please consult the report and financial statements available on our website.

# SUPPORT REDRESS



© Magdulein Abaida

“ I’m so proud to have played a part in setting a legal precedent for women and human rights defenders in the MENA region. I’d like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the extraordinary legal team at REDRESS for working so hard over the past few years to achieve this landmark outcome. ”

– Magdulein Abaida, after winning an important decision against Libya for the torture she suffered at the hands of a militia group in 2011.

## BECOME A REGULAR SUPPORTER

The vital contributions of REDRESS’s supporters enable us to continue to redress torture where and whenever it occurs. To maintain ongoing casework to represent those targeted for their identity or activism, we rely heavily on donations that can support our work. Litigation of this nature often takes several years to reach a judgment, so sustained support allows us to see these cases through to fruition, supporting survivors with the assistance they need to pursue justice.

Your contributions also help us to strengthen the global anti-torture movement. We are constantly striving to strengthen resilience within communities affected by torture and the organisations assisting them, increase awareness, and advocate for changes in law and policy that will prevent further abuses from taking place. Supporter donations facilitate this work to realise our vision of a world without torture.

Support our ongoing cases: [redress.org/donate](https://redress.org/donate)



Help share our vision for  
a world without torture:

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