



Japan Innocence & Death Penalty
Information Center



日本冤罪・死刑情報センター



Japan Stakeholder Report on the Death Penalty for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review

Submitted by **The Advocates for Human Rights**,
a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty
The Center for Prisoners' Rights (Japan)
and
Japan Innocence and Death Penalty Information Center

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Founded in 1983, **The Advocates for Human Rights** (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based non-governmental organization committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law. The Advocates conducts a range of programs to promote human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publication. The Advocates is the primary provider of legal services to low-income asylum seekers in the Upper Midwest region of the United States. In 1991, The Advocates adopted a formal commitment to oppose the death penalty worldwide and organized a death penalty project to provide pro bono assistance on post-conviction appeals, as well as education and advocacy to end capital punishment. The Advocates currently holds a seat on the Steering Committee of the World Coalition against the Death Penalty.

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), an alliance of more than 150 NGOs, bar associations, local authorities, and unions, was created in Rome on 13 May 2002. The aim of the World Coalition is to strengthen the international dimension of the fight against the death penalty. Its ultimate objective is to obtain the universal abolition of the death penalty. To achieve its goal, the World Coalition advocates for a definitive end to death sentences and executions in those countries where the death penalty is in force. In some countries, it is seeking to obtain a reduction in the use of capital punishment as a first step towards abolition.

The Center for Prisoners' Rights Japan (CPR) was established in March 1995 as the first Japanese NGO specializing in prison reform. CPR's goal is to reform Japanese prison conditions in accordance with international human rights standards and to abolish the death penalty. CPR is a member organization of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty.

Japan Innocence and Death Penalty Information Center's (JIADEP) mission is to reform the criminal justice system, particularly to rectify and end wrongful convictions, and work toward the abolition of the death penalty. JIADEP helps defense teams both in Japan and the USA and seeks to educate and inform the public through publishing and lecturing.