

# Biographies of the Keynote Speaker and Panellists

## Keynote Address

- **Carolyn Hoyle**

Carolyn Hoyle is Professor of Criminology at the University of Oxford Centre for Criminology and Director of the Oxford [Death Penalty Research Unit](#). She is co-author of the leading international study on the death penalty, [The Death Penalty: A Worldwide Perspective](#).

She has published empirical and theoretical research on a wide range of criminological topics in addition to the death penalty: wrongful convictions, policing, domestic violence, and restorative justice, and teaches Masters' courses and supervises research students on these topics.

She has collaborated with [The Death Penalty Project](#) on public opinion research in Indonesia and studies of opinion formers' views on the death penalty in India, Indonesia, Taiwan and Zimbabwe, and is conducting a similar study in Kenya. They are currently collaborating on research on deterrence, drug offending and the death penalty in Indonesia, and a socio-economic study of death row in Kenya. She is also working with The Death Penalty Project and other leading international and national NGOs on a study of [foreign nationals at risk of the death penalty in Asia and the Middle East](#).

## Panel 1:

### Institutional efforts aimed at preventing and stopping the death penalty

- **Hanne Sophie Greve**

Vice President of the Gulating High Court, Norway, and member of the International Commission against the Death Penalty. She has previously served, *inter alia*, as an Expert in the UN Commission of Experts for the Former Yugoslavia established pursuant to UN Security Council resolution 780 (1992) (1993–94); and Judge at the Europe-an Court of Human Rights (1998–2004). She has served as UNHCR Assistant Protection Officer (1979–1981, Bangkok), and as a mediator for the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (1992–beginning of 1993, Phnom Penh). She has had several consultancies in and lectured extensively on international law (human rights, refugee law, law of war and criminal justice).

- **Todung Mulia Lubis**

Currently serving as Ambassador of Indonesia to Norway and Iceland since 2018. A respected Indonesian lawyer, human rights activist, and the founder of the Lubis Santosa & Maramis law firm. Ambassador Lubis has held the position of Deputy Chair of the Human Rights Investigation

Commission for East Timor, International Advisor for Human Rights Advocates in Berkeley, United States; and Member of the Asian Human Rights Commission in Hong Kong. Ambassador Lubis obtained his bachelor's degree from University of Indonesia, LL.M from University of California – Berkeley and Harvard University, PhD from University of California – Berkeley, he was awarded doctor Honoris Causa from Murdoch University and Professor from University of Melbourne. Ambassador Lubis attempted to convince the Constitutional Court of Indonesia to abolish death penalty through judicial review in 2007. In his position, Ambassador Lubis sees the current reluctance of the government to carry out the execution as a major development in Indonesia.

- **Wera Helstrøm**

Senior adviser in the Section for Human Rights, Democracy and Gender Equality at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is the MFA's focal point for capital punishment, freedom of expression, and equal rights for sexual and gender minorities. She coordinates Norway's human rights recommendations to other UN member states in the Universal Periodic Review at the UN Human Rights Council. She is the author of Norway MFA's recently launched strategy for promoting freedom of expression, and has contributed to Norway's national action plan against discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics. Helstrøm has served as a Norwegian diplomat to Kenya and to the European Union in Brussels. She has a cand.mag. in international cultural and social studies from the University of Oslo, the University of Newcastle (Australia) and the UiT Arctic University of Norway.

- **John Peder Egenæs**

Director of Amnesty International Norway. He has worked for Amnesty in various positions for 30 years, from Campaign Coordinator to Project Officer for Amnesty International's Human Rights Education Programme. Almost all his adult life, John Peder Egenæs has been advocating the rights of people who have been forgotten, persecuted or deprived of their right to freedom of speech by the authorities in their respective countries. Egenæs has an academic background in anthropology, in addition to practical teachers training.

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## **Panel 2: Perspectives from various human rights mechanisms and international law aspects concerning the death penalty**

- **Yuval Shany**

The Hersch Lauterpacht Chair in International Law and former Dean of the Law Faculty of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He was a member of the UN Human Rights Committee from 2013 to 2020, where he also served as the Chair of the Committee. During his 8-year term, the Committee has produced three General Comments, No.35 (article 9 - liberty and security of person), No.36 (article 6 - right to life) and No.37 (article 21 – right of peaceful assembly). He is a senior research fellow at the Israel Democracy Institute, the Chair of the Hebrew University's Minerva Center for Human Rights' academic committee, co-director of the Faculty's International Law Forum

and transitional justice program, and the head of the CyberLaw program of the Hebrew University CyberSecurity Research Center.

- **Malene Alleyne**

Jamaican human rights lawyer and founder of Freedom Imaginaries, an organization that uses human rights law to tackle legacies of slavery and colonialism. She has over seven years of experience working with human rights bodies and organizations, including the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations. She is a country researcher in an upcoming study on the impact of the United Nations human rights treaty system, organized by the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Malene holds a Master of Laws degree from Harvard Law School and a Master of Advanced Studies degree from the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva. She received her Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill. She is qualified to practice law in Jamaica and Guyana.

- **Solomon Dersso**

A highly respected legal scholar, human rights practitioner & peace and security and mediation expert. A recipient of the prestigious Vera Chirwa award from the Centre for Human Rights University of Pretoria, Dr Dersso currently serves as the Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, African Union's premier human rights body. As member of the African Commission, he sponsored several key resolutions on country and thematic issues & led the drafting of the Commission's investigation report on human rights violations in Burundi in the context of the 2015 crisis. Dr Dersso is also credited for leading the drafting and adoption of the African Commission's studies on Transitional Justice and on Human Rights in Conflict Situations as well as the 2019 African Union's Transitional Justice Policy. An Adjunct Professor at the College of Governance Studies, Addis Ababa University, Dr Dersso has published widely and serves as editorial board member of, among others, the International Journal of Transitional Justice and the African Journal of Human Rights. Dr Dersso, the leading expert on the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, serves as the Founding Director of Amani Africa, the Addis Ababa based Pan-African policy research, training and consulting think tank known for its pioneer work on the African Union Peace and Security Council. He has a PhD from the School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand, LLM Degree from the Centre for Human Rights University of Pretoria, Masters' Degree in Peace Mediation from ETH Zurich and LLB Degree from School of Law, Addis Ababa University.

- **William A. Schabas**

Professor of international law at Middlesex University in London, emeritus professor of international criminal law and human rights at Leiden University and distinguished visiting faculty at the Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po. He is also professor emeritus at the National University of Ireland Galway and honorary chairman of the Irish Centre for Human Rights. He is the author of more than twenty books in the fields of human rights and international criminal law, his most recent being *The Customary International Law of Human Rights* and the published version of the course he delivered at the Hague Academy of International Law in January 2021 entitled *Relationships between International Criminal Law and Other Branches of Public International Law*. Professor Schabas prepared the quinquennial reports on the death penalty for the United Nations Secretary-General in 2020, 2015 and 2010. He was a member of the Sierra Leone Truth and Reconciliation

Commission. Professor Schabas is an Officer of the Order of Canada and a member of the Royal Irish Academy, a laureate of the Vespasian Pella Medal, and he holds several honorary doctorates.