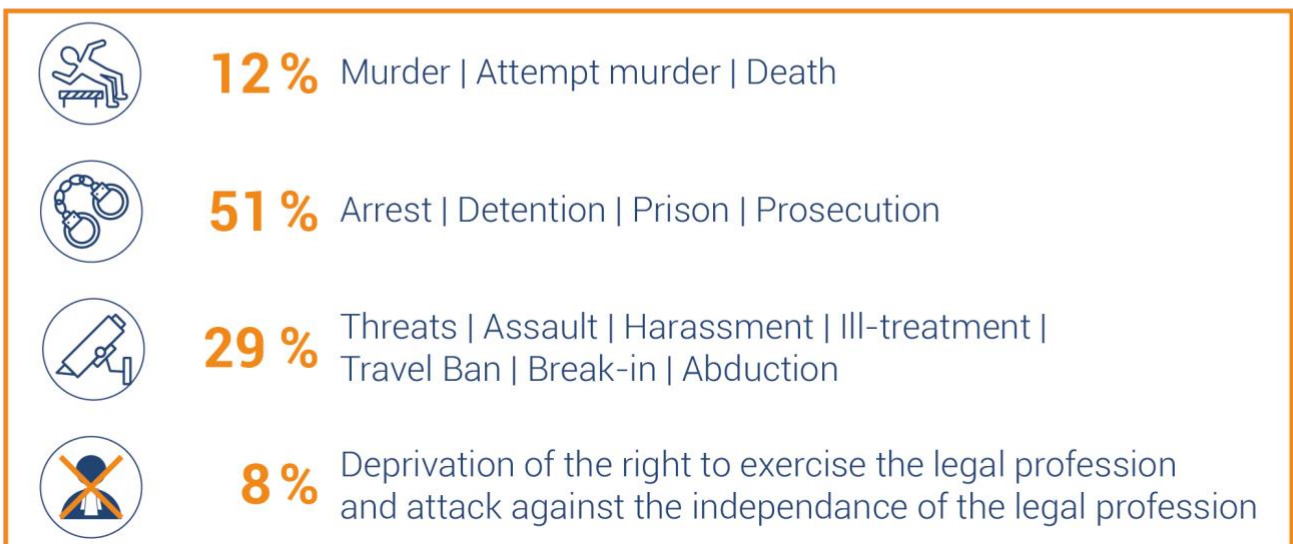
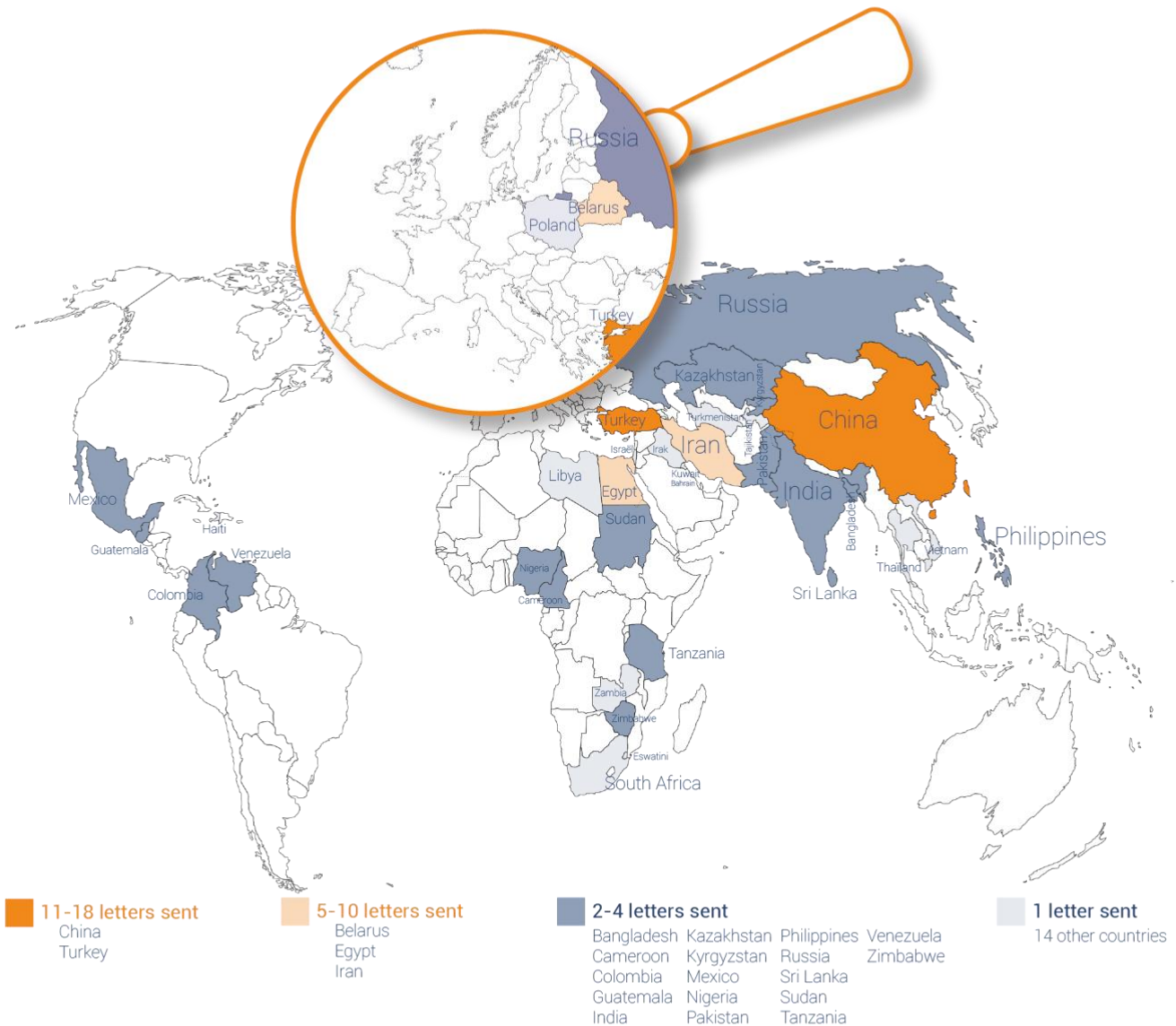


In **2020** the CCBE sent  
**112** letters in support of endangered lawyers  
 in **36** countries around the world



## List of letters in support of endangered lawyers 2020

COUNTRY	Lawyers concerned	Letter sent the:	Link to the letter	Types of HR violation and summary of the case
<b>BAHRAIN</b>	Abdullah Al-Shamlawi	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Conviction of lawyer Abdullah Al-Shamlawi</b> On 30 June 2020, lawyer Abdullah Al-Shamlawi was sentenced to eight months in prison on charges of inciting hatred towards a religious sect and misusing a telecommunications appliance due to the publication of two tweets relating to Islamic history and religious practices. In addition, a disciplinary suit was filed against him on 28 July 2020, resulting in the Disciplinary Board of Lawyers banning him from practicing law for one month.
<b>BANGLADESH</b>	Shahanur Islam	16/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Assault of lawyer Shahanur Islam</b> on 26 August 2020, Shahanur Islam was physically assaulted while taking part in a hearing. As a result of the attack, Mr. Islam suffered a serious injury under his left eye and on the frontal side of his head.
<b>BANGLADESH</b>	Asadul Hoque	17/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> On 5 June 2020, lawyer Asadul Hoque was killed at his residence at Rangpur in Bangladesh. This is not an isolated case, and that many lawyers in Bangladesh are being harassed, intimidated, threatened and physically assaulted. An investigation is ongoing and that the police already arrested one of the assailants.
<b>BELARUS</b>	Roman Kislyak	02/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest and judicial harassment</b> Roman Kislyak was taken incommunicado into detention following his participation in a peaceful environmental protest action. His whereabouts were only known on 12 May, being detained by the police on 10 May. On 12 May, he was fined 1 350 Rubles for the “participation in an unauthorised mass event” under Article 23.34 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of Belarus (violation of the established procedure for holding a rally). However, Roman Kislyak is still being held in a pre-trial detention centre and is currently awaiting a new court hearing.
<b>BELARUS</b>	General letter	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Situation of lawyers (harassment)</b> Belarussian lawyers are being intimidated and harassed while working on political sensitive cases related to the Presidential election of 2020. In addition, lawyers are facing difficulties in providing legal assistance since they do not get timely access to their clients nor sufficient guarantees to safeguard the confidentiality of communications with their clients in pre-detention centres.

				Furthermore, there are serious restrictions on lawyers' freedom of expression as they are "recommended" not to comment or argue publicly in politically sensitive cases, prevented from pleading publicly and obliged to sign a non-disclosure document in criminal cases.
<b>BELARUS</b>	Lilia Vlasova	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest of Lilia Vlasova</b> On 31 August 2020, lawyer Lilia Vlasova was arrested after her house had been searched by the authorities. It is reported that she was summoned by the police on charges of taking part in an unsanctioned protest. However, we understand that the actual charges against her have not been made public yet.
<b>BELARUS</b>	Ilya Salei and Maksim Znak	24/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention of Ilya Salei and Maksim Znak</b> Ilya Salei and Maksim Znak were detained by Belarusian authorities on 9 September 2020. Since that day, both lawyers have been held in preventive detention as suspects of undertaking actions "aimed at destabilizing the socio-political, economic situation and public awareness in the country, causing harm to the national security of the Republic of Belarus".
<b>BELARUS</b>	Liudmila Kazak	08/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest and judicial harassment</b> Liudmila Kazak was arrested on 24 September 2020. Liudmila Kazak was allegedly denied access to her lawyers and kept detained at the Okrestina Preliminary Detention Center (Minsk). It is reported that, on the evening of 25 September, she was found guilty of the charge of "resisting police officers" and released
<b>BELARUS</b>	Aleksandr Pylchenka and Yulia Levanchuk	19/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Revoked licenses</b> On 15 October 2020, the Ministry of Justice of Belarus decided to revoke the license of lawyers Aliaksandr Pylchenka and Yulia Levanchuk. It is reported that the suspension of their license is an attempt to put pressure on them in connection with their work providing legal support citizens in politically sensitive cases.
<b>BELARUS</b>	Marina Dubina	19/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Sentencing</b> On 6 October 2020, Marina Dubina was arrested in Minsk by police officers. Reportedly, tear gas was used during the arrest. On 8 October 2020 the Central District Court of Minsk sentenced her to 13 days in administrative detention on the sole ground of her participation in a demonstration in Minsk on 23 September 2020. In addition, it has been reported that on 8 October there were attempts to break into the lawyer's apartment.
<b>BELARUS</b>	Maxim Znak	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> Belarusian authorities have extended Maxim Znak's term of preventive detention for two additional months, until 9 January 2021. The lawyer was detained on 9 September 2020, charged with the crime of undertaking actions aimed at destabilising the country and causing harm to national security.
<b>BELARUS</b>	Aleksandr Pylchenko	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Disbarment</b> Aleksandr Pylchenko continues being subject to harassment. We understand that, on 15 October 2020, his license to practice was revoked by the Ministry of Justice of Belarus. Aleksandr Pylchenko

				and his lawyers filed an appeal against this decision on November 10, but it is reported that they were not allowed to present during the meeting of the qualification commission.
<b>CAMEROON</b>	Dominique Fousse and Serge Chendjou	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Assault</b> Dominique Fousse was subjected to physical and verbal violence on 12 June 2020, when she attended to the police station of Douala 3, in order to assist a client. Similarly, on 23 July 2020, Serge Chendjou was the target of physical and verbal attacks at the Central Service of Judicial Researches in Yaoundé, while he was acting as a lawyer and assisting his clients.
<b>CAMEROON</b>	General letter	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Attack on lawyer</b> On 10 November 2020, several lawyers were injured by police officers at the Bonanjo Court of First Instance. The incident occurred during a hearing concerning the case of two lawyers who were accused of contempt. It is reported that, following an adjournment of the case to 25th November, protests started among those present in the hearing. These protests were, reportedly, strongly repressed by police officers who entered the Court and shot tear gas and firearms on lawyers to disperse them, causing injuries to some of them.
<b>CHINA</b>	Ding Jiayi, Huang Zhiqiang and Chang Weiping	30/01/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention of lawyers</b> Ding Jiayi was taken in custody on 26 December 2019 in Beijing by the police without presenting any arrest warrant. Huang Zhiqiang was taken in custody on 29 December 2019. He is under criminal investigation of “provoking trouble” and is now being held at the Jinhua City Detention Center. Lawyer Chang Weiping was taken from a friend’s residence in Xi’an on 12 January 2020. He has been transferred to “residential surveillance at a designated location”.
<b>CHINA</b>	Xu Zhiyong	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> Xu Zhiyong has been held in detention (with no access to a lawyer) since 15 February 2020 on charges of “inciting subversion of state power” which may result in a sentence of 15 years in jail. These charges are linked to his recent declaration regarding the public handling of the COVID-19 in China.
<b>CHINA</b>	Wang Quanzhang	20/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Harassment</b> Quanzhang should have been returned after his release to his residence in Beijing but was brought to the location of his household registration in Jinan for a 14 day quarantine due to an outbreak of coronavirus in Rencheng Prison in Shandong. His communication to the outside world has been severely restricted.
<b>CHINA</b>	Qin Yongpei	19/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Judicial harassment (detention + revoked licence)</b> Qin Yongpei was formally arrested on 3 December 2019 for “inciting subversion of state power” and is currently detained at the Nanning Municipal Detention Centre No. 1. He has been denied access to a lawyer to prevent the spread of COVID-19, although prosecutors and other court officials are allowed to enter detention centres to question suspects and defendants.

<b>CHINA</b>	Yu Wensheng	27/07/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Prison sentence</b> On 17 June 2020, lawyer Yu Wensheng was sentenced to four years in prison followed by three years of deprivation of political rights on charges of “inciting subversion of State power”.
<b>CHINA</b>	Yu Wensheng	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Health condition of lawyer Yu Wensheng in continued detention</b> On 14 August 2020, Yu Wensheng was, for the first time during his imprisonment, allowed to meet a lawyer of his choice at a detention centre in Xuzhou. After this meeting, there are serious concerns about his health condition. In particular, it is reported that Yu Wensheng suffers severe trembling in his right hand. He is also experiencing difficulties to chew and he has recently fainted due to a heat stroke in a detention centre.
<b>CHINA</b>	Ding Jiayi	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention of Ding Jiayi</b> Ding Jiayi has been held incommunicado since his arrest on 26 December 2019. The place of his detention remains unknown and he has reportedly been denied access to his lawyer and his family.
<b>CHINA</b>	Yang Bin	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Suspension of license</b> On 17 August 2020 the Guangdong Department of Justice informed Yang Bin that her license to practice law was suspended. This is not the first time that Yang Bin has been harassed, as she was detained for a day on 15 February 2020 and, following her detention, four cameras were installed at her home, monitoring her activities during the last months.
<b>CHINA</b>	Li Yuhan	29/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> Li Yuhan remains in pre-trial detention since October 2017, charged with “picking quarrels and provoking trouble”. Li Yuhan has suffered several urgent medical conditions, reportedly due to the ill treatments received during her detention and the refusal to provide the lawyer with adequate medical treatment.
<b>CHINA</b>	Chang Weiping	29/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> On 22 October 2020, lawyer Chang Weiping was arrested without warrant in Shaanxi and without been informed of the grounds for detention. It is reported that his recent detention could be linked to a video statement released on 16 October, denouncing ill-treatment and the poor detention conditions in which he had been held during a previous arrest.
<b>CHINA</b>	Lawyers confined, Tang Jitan, and Hao Jinsong	15/12/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Situation of lawyers in China: Human Rights Day crackdown</b> Officials monitored the homes of lawyers, notably those of Wang Quanzhang, Yu Wensheng, Xie Yanyi, and Yu Wensheng, and restricted them from leaving their homes as of 10 December 2020. It was also reported that lawyer Tang Jitan was taken by the police on 8 December 2020. The reason for this and his whereabouts are still unknown. In addition, lawyer Hao Jinsong, who has been detained since December 2019, was put on trial at Dingxiang County People’s Court in Shaanxi Province on 10 December 2020.
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	Adil Meléndez	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Threats</b> Human rights lawyer Adil Meléndez received threats through a phone call on 6 December 2019.

				Adil Meléndez has regularly been targeted and threatened over the past few years, including with assassination attempts. Adil Meléndez filed a complaint to the relevant authorities and the investigation is still ongoing.
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	Daniel Prado	19/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Harassment</b> Daniel Prado's office and home were monitored by a drone in January 2020. Prado has defended many victims of human rights violations in Colombia over the last 20 years and has long been a target due to his work as a lawyer for victims of human rights violations.
<b>EGYPT</b>	Haytham Mohamadeen and Gamal Eid.	30/01/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention &amp; Assault</b> The State Public Prosecution appealed against the release order of Mohamadeen and his preventive detention was extended for another 45 days. Lawyer Gamal Eid was assaulted outside his home in Cairo by a group of men on 30 December 2019. The assailants threw him to the ground and dumped paint on him.
<b>EGYPT</b>	Zyad El-Elaimy	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Sentencing</b> Zyad El-Elaimy was sentenced to one year in prison and a 20 000 Egyptian pounds fine for "spreading false news with an intent to spread panic among the people and disturbing public peace" during an interview he gave to the BBC in July 2017 related to human rights issues in Egypt.
<b>EGYPT</b>	Haytham Mohamadeen	02/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued Detention</b> Haytham Mohamadeen's preventive detention has been extended multiple times. Most recently, the Criminal Court of Cairo renewed his detention on 6 May 2020 for an additional 45-day period. The CCBE already wrote on 17 August 2018 and 30 January 2020 to express its concerns over his continued detention.
<b>EGYPT</b>	Mohsen Bahnasi	27/07/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> On 27 March 2020 Mohsen Bahnasi was violently arrested by security agents without any warrant. On 28 March 2020, the Supreme Public Prosecution ordered his detention for 15 days, pending investigation, on charges of 'joining a terrorist organisation' and 'spreading false news'. On 6 July 2020, his detention was renewed for an additional 15 days.
<b>EGYPT</b>	Zyad El-Elaimy	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention and medical condition</b> Zyad el-Elaimy, who has been detained for over a year, has been denied adequate healthcare by the Tora prison authorities amid concerns that his underlying medical conditions (asthma, diabetes and high blood pressure) put him at particular risk if exposed to COVID-19.
<b>EGYPT</b>	Mahienour El-Massry, Amr Imam, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy and Mohamed El-Baqer	24/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Situation of lawyers Mahienour El-Massry, Amr Imam, Ibrahim Metwally Hegazy and Mohamed El-Baqer</b> The four lawyers have been held in pre-trial detention for a long period of time, due to several extensions of the detention period. According to the last information received, new files have been opened to the lawyers on the same charges, allegedly with the aim to extend the period of their detention.



<b>EGYPT</b>	Hoda Abdelmoniem	02/12/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Deteriorating health condition of lawyer Hoda Abdelmoniem</b></p> <p>Hoda Abdelmoniem is a human rights lawyer who has been detained since her arrest on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018. Abdelmoniem was recently taken to a university hospital due to her deteriorating health condition, and then returned to her cell in Qanater prison. It is reported that she is suffering from renal failure and family visits have been constantly been denied to her. There are concerns regarding her deteriorating health, especially given her history of repeated kidney stones, deep venous thrombosis and unstable hypertension each of which deserving specialized treatment.</p>
<b>EGYPT</b>	Mohamed Ramadan	15/12/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Continued detention of lawyer Mohamed Ramadan</b></p> <p>On 8 December 2020, lawyer Mohamed Ramadan was transferred to the SSSP where he was interrogated in an entirely new case on charges of belonging to a terrorist group. This new case was opened just after he had received his release order on 2 December 2020, after he had spent 2 years in pretrial detention, which constitutes the maximum time period set forth by the Egyptian Code of Criminal Procedure. It is reported that this is part of a practice where lawyers are being interrogated and ordered into pretrial detention in new cases following release orders in prior cases to sidestep domestic pretrial detention maximums.</p>
<b>ESWATINI</b>	General letter	19/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Independence of the legal profession</b></p> <p>The Government is planning to introduce a new legislation establishing a Legal Services Regulatory Authority which would be tasked with setting standards for legal practice, issuing practicing certificates and conducting disciplinary proceedings against lawyers. It is reported that the newly established Authority would be constituted by up to 10 members, only one of them being appointed by the Law Society of Eswatini and the rest of the members being appointed by the executive power.</p>
<b>GUATEMALA</b>	Esteban Celada	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Attempted break-in</b></p> <p>A group of unidentified individuals attempted to break in into human rights lawyer Esteban Celada's house on 5 February 2020. Days before that episode his neighbours told him that unknown people had come to ask about his whereabouts. This follows a series of other incidents perpetrated against him and his family.</p>
<b>GUATEMALA</b>	Esteban Celada	19/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Break-in</b></p> <p>A group of unidentified individuals broke in and vandalised human rights lawyer Esteban Celada's house on 22 April 2020. After returning from work, the lawyer found the main doors forced open and the walls and floor inside the property smeared with faecal matter.</p>
<b>HAITI</b>	Monferrier Dorva	16/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Murder of Monferrier Dorva</b></p> <p>On 28 August 2020, Monferrier Dorva was shot dead by unidentified individuals in the car park of his residence. The motives behind his murder are still unknown. However, it has been reported that it may be linked to the recent position that he had taken in a controversial radio interview on topics such as constitutional reform, elections and the breakdown of Haitian institutions.</p>
<b>INDIA</b>	Miyan Abdul	14/02/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Detention of lawyer</b></p>

	Qayoom			Human rights lawyer Miyan Abdul Qayoom was arrested on 4 August 2019 and charged under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, under which people can be jailed for up to two years without trial. Qayoom's health has recently been deteriorating in detention (severe chest pain and breathlessness).
<b>INDIA</b>	Lawyers from the Indian Civil Liberties Union	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Assault</b> ICLU lawyers were assaulted on 26 February 2020 by police personnel when they went to inquire about detainees who were picked up from the riot that hit North East Delhi. The police refused to give the lawyers access to the detainees and started beating the lawyers with a police baton.
<b>INDIA</b>	Mohammad Bilal Gulam Rasul Kagzi	27/07/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Judicial harassment</b> On 29 May 2020 a First Information Report (FIR) was filed against him accusing him of firing a gun. However, CCTV camera footage proves that he never left his house at the time of the incident and that preliminary inquiry by the police before the FIR also reveals that he never went to the place of the incident. No inquiry nor any investigation has been launched by the police to determine his presence or absence at the place where the incident took place.
<b>INDIA</b>	Babar Qadri	08/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> On 24 September 2020, lawyer Babar Qadri was shot by an unidentified man when he was entering his domicile and died on the way to the hospital. It is reported that Babar Qadri had received threats through social media days before his murder
<b>IRAQ</b>	Karar Adel, Ali Maarij Al-Azejawi	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder &amp; Murder attempt</b> Adel was shot dead on 10 March 2020 in the middle of the city of Amara. An unidentified armed group stopped his car and killed him immediately. Unidentified gunmen shot Al-Azerjawi and wounded him. He was subsequently transferred to the hospital for treatment, where his condition is now stable.
<b>IRAN</b>	COVID-19 Imprisoned lawyers	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Endangered imprisoned lawyer – COVID19</b> All possible action should be taken to protect the health and safety of all persons deprived of their liberty. Concerns over the convictions of many lawyers such as Nasrin Sotoudeh, Abdolfattah Soltani, Mohammad Najafi and Amirsalar Davoudi to whom the CCBE granted its 2019 Human Rights Award.
<b>IRAN</b>	Soheila Hejab	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Sentencing</b> Soheila Hejab was sentenced to 18 years in prison by the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court on charges of propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security, disturbing public opinion, establishing groups to defend women's rights, asking referendum to change the constitution.
<b>IRAN</b>	Draft bill on the Iranian Bar Association	02/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Independence of the legal profession</b> A recently proposed draft bill would undermine the independence of lawyers by replacing the Iranian Bar Association with a group of government-appointed judiciary officials. Based on the draft, the Judiciary would form a new body named the "Supreme Council for the Coordination of



				Lawyers' Affairs", with seven members appointed by the government. Out of the seven members, only two – the Chairman of the Central Bar Association and the Chairman of the National Bar Associations Union – would be representatives of Iranian lawyers.
<b>IRAN</b>	Payam Derafshan and the situation of lawyers in Iran	02/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Sentencing</b> Payam Derafshan, who was arrested on 31 July 2018, has been sentenced to two years imprisonment and suspended from practicing law for an additional two years. He was denied access to a lawyer while on trial on the charge of “insulting the supreme leader”.
<b>IRAN</b>	Mohammad Najafi	27/07/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> Mohammad Najafi, who was sentenced to a total of 22 years and 10 months imprisonment, and a fine of four million Tomans was officially summoned to return to the Arak Detention Center after being allowed a two-month furlough, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
<b>IRAN</b>	Payam Derafshan	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention and enforced disappearance</b> Payam Derafshan, who was arrested without warrant by unknown individuals on 8 June 2020, is now being held incommunicado.
<b>IRAN</b>	Nasrin Sotoudeh	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Hunger strike and freezing of bank accounts</b> On 11 August 2020, lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh began a hunger strike to demand the release of political prisoners threatened by the COVID-19 virus, which has reportedly spread in Tehran’s Evin Prison where she is currently detained. Additionally, we understand that Nasrin Sotoudeh's bank accounts were blocked by the Tehran Prosecutor's Office on July 27, 2020 putting additional economic pressure on the lawyer’s family.
<b>IRAN</b>	Nasrin Sotoudeh	22/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Alarming health situation of Nasrin Sotoudeh in detention</b> Human rights lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh started her hunger strike on 11 August 2020. According to the information received, after more than four weeks on strike, her health has seriously deteriorated and Ms. Sotoudeh is now in a critical condition.
<b>IRAN</b>	Nasrin Sotoudeh	15/12/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Concerns regarding the imprisonment and health condition of lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh</b> Lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh, who was released on temporary medical leave from prison on 7 November 2020, was ordered on 2 December 2020 to return to Qarchak Prison. It is reported that this order was made despite the recommendations of medical experts that her leave should be extended for a further two weeks due to the severe deterioration of her health.
<b>ISRAEL</b>	Salah Hamouri	24/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Harassment of lawyer Salah Hamouri</b> On 3 September, Mr. Salah Hamouri was informed that the Israeli Ministry of the Interior intended to withdraw his permanent residence card on the grounds that he had engaged in hostile activities against the state of Israel. We understand that the withdrawal of his residence card would mean his expulsion from Israel
<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>	Amanzhol Mukhamedyarov and Erlan	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Disbarment</b> The Supreme Court decided to disbar both lawyers after they posted on a social network a video of a court hearing session. The video allegedly revealed a judge making inappropriate comments

	Gazumzhanov			about these two lawyers specifically, and the legal profession in general.
<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>	Zakir Asadov	17/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Harassment</b> Zakir Asadov has been the victim of pressures from the law enforcement bodies as a result of his work as a lawyer.
<b>KUWAIT</b>	Hani Hussain	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest and detention</b> Human rights lawyer Hani Hussain was arrested by the police on 19 February 2020. Public Prosecution ordered his imprisonment for 21 days while two cases are being investigated, on charges of 'broadcasting news about the area separating Saudi Arabia and Kuwait' and allegedly 'violating the law of national unity'.
<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>	General letter	17/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Situation of lawyers (harassment)</b> The Kyrgyz Bar association expressed in an open letter in December 2019 serious concern that Kyrgyz lawyers were facing increased harassment from both State and non-State actors as a result of their professional activities, in particular for lawyers working on sensitive cases. The situation has not improved since then and that Kyrgyz lawyers are still facing apparent intimidation as a result of their work.
<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>	Kamil Ruziev	24/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention and house arrest of Kamil Ruziev</b> Kamil Ruziev was detained on 29 May 2020, interrogated and reportedly denied access to a lawyer. We understand that, after two days of detention at the Karakol detention centre, Mr. Ruziev was informed that a criminal case had been opened against him and that he was charged with the crimes of forgery of documents and fraud. It is reported that these charges are related to a medical certificate he obtained after suffering from acute bronchitis.
<b>LIBYA</b>	Hanan al-Barassi	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> On 10 November 2020, lawyer Hanan al-Barassi was shot dead by a group of unknown men. Al-Barassi was known for her work as a human rights lawyer and she was actively involved in the fight against human rights abuses and corruption. It is reported that the lawyer had published a video criticising the LAAF just hours before the shooting.
<b>MEXICO</b>	Arnulfo Cerón Soriano	30/01/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Lawyer Arnulfo Cerón Soriano was found on 20 November buried under several tons of soil in the "El Aguaje" colony in Tlapa, Guerrero. He had been missing since 11 October 2019 when he was on his way to give a lecture in the state of Guerrero.
<b>MEXICO</b>	Isaac Medardo Herrera Avilés and Roland Valerio Magdaleno	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Isaac Herrera was shot down at his house by a group of armed men. Herrera was a symbol of the fight against several building projects near the city of Cuernavaca. Magdaleno's body was found in the city of Ciudad Juárez in his parked car with several bullet holes in his head.
<b>MEXICO</b>	Claudia Elizabeth	17/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest and assault of lawyer</b> Claudia Elizabeth Hernández Herrera was arbitrarily arrested and physically assaulted by police

	Hernández Herrera			officers of the San Luis Potosí State while she was acting as a human rights observer at a demonstration against police violence in the city of San Luis Potosí.
<b>NIGERIA</b>	Soalabor West	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Soaloabor West was kidnapped while inspecting his poultry farm on 12 March 2020 and taken to an unknown destination. He was found dead a week after his abduction. A ransom was demanded for his release, but it could not be ascertained if the said ransom was paid.
<b>NIGERIA</b>	Paulette Bisola Ajayi	19/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Abduction</b> On 4 October, lawyer Paulette Bisola Ajayi was abducted in front of her residence by four unidentified men wearing military uniforms. It has been reported that Paulette Bisola Ajayi's mother was also injured. Both abducted lawyer and mother are active members of the FIDA. We understand that the lawyer was found and released by the police four days after her abduction and reported multiple beatings during her detention.
<b>NIGERIA</b>	Adewale Salawu	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Assault</b> On 29 October 2020, lawyer Adewale Salawu was assaulted by soldiers of the Nigerian army when he intended to attend a meeting organized by the Yoruba coalition group in Ibadan. It is reported that Mr. Salawu witnessed the assault of a citizen by a soldier. When he presented himself as a lawyer and tried to stop the abuses, he was reportedly beaten and tortured by the soldiers
<b>PAKISTAN</b>	Shafiq Ahmed & Inamur Rahim	30/01/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Abduction</b> Shafiq Ahmed was abducted on 10 December 2019 by a group of men waiting for him in front of his house. He was forced to enter a vehicle and his current whereabouts remain unknown.
<b>PAKISTAN</b>	Nasreen Ishrad	16/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Abduction of lawyer Nasreen Ishrad</b> On 15 August 2020, Nasreen Ishrad was abducted by unidentified individuals, while she was going back home after a Court hearing. It is reported that Ms. Ishrad was detained in an unknown location for four days and was subjected to torture.
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	Ray Moncada	30/01/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Ray Moncada was shot multiple times in front of his home in Barangay Daro on 3 January 2020. He unfortunately died in the hospital after 10 days of fighting for his life. Ray Moncada had reportedly received death threats during the last few weeks.
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	Carlos Anselmo	14/02/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Carlos Anselmo was shot dead in Barangay Vicente on 28 January 2020 by a group of three men. Carlos Anselmo was on his way home from a court hearing at the Hall of Justice in nearby Guagua town when he was attacked.
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	Bayani Dalangin	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Bayani Dalangin was repeatedly shot at his office in Talavera town on 28 February 2020. The assailant reportedly fled on a motorcycle and, despite the ongoing investigation, his current whereabouts remain unknown.
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	Eric Jay A.	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b>

	Magcamit			On 17 November 2020, lawyer Eric Jay A. Magcamit was shot dead on his way to a hearing in the Province of Palawan. The lawyer was, reportedly, assaulted by two unidentified men who shot at him, causing his immediate death.
<b>POLAND</b>	Roman Giertych	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> On 15 October 2020, lawyer Roman Giertych was arrested as a suspect of money laundering. Following the detention, the lawyer's house and office were searched. The searches were reportedly conducted without the presence of the representatives of the Warsaw Bar Association and Mr. Giertych. In addition, the Polish authorities have imposed preventive measures on Mr. Giertych, including the suspension of his right to practice law and a bail of 5 million Polish Zloty.
<b>RUSSIA</b>	Marina Dubrovina	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Assault</b> Marina Dubrovina was assaulted on 6 February 2020 by a group of unknown individuals in Grozny. She was present in the region for the hearing of Islam Nukhanov. She was surrounded in the lobby of the Continent hotel, where she was pushed on the ground and repeatedly kicked.
<b>RUSSIA</b>	Natalia Magova, Diana Sipinova, and Liudmila Kochesokova	29/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Assault and criminal charges</b> On 21 May 2020, lawyers Natalia Magova, Diana Sipinova and Liudmila Kochesokova were removed from the building of the Department of the Ministry of Interior with the use of physical force by several officers after they were denied access to meet with their client.
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	Vernon Jantjies	30/01/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Murder</b> Vernon Jantjies was shot dead on 1 December 2019 as he was exiting his shop in Cape Town. Vernon Jantjies had recently joined the defence team representing Glenda Bird, sister of alleged druglord Fadwaan Murphy in a Cape Town High Court trial.
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	Hejaaz Hizbullah	19/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> Hejaaz Hizbullah was arrested by the Criminal Investigation Division on 14 April 2020 under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. He was taken to the CID office and interrogated further and has remained in detention ever since. He has been denied any access to legal counsel since 16 April 2020.
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	General letter	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Situation of lawyers (Arrest and harassment)</b> According to the information received, since the 2019 presidential election, several targeted arrests, intimidation and threats against the lives and physical security of lawyers have been reported. In addition, these lawyers are subjected to attacks and threats on social media with the failure of the police to act on the protection of their safety.
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	Hejaaz Hizbullah	25/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> Lawyer Hejaaz Hizbullah continues to be in pre-trial detention, more than 6 months after his detention on 14 April 2020. It is reported that, since that date, he has been denied access to his lawyer and kept in detention, even though criminal charges have not yet been presented against him.
<b>SUDAN</b>	Madani Ali	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Ill-treatment</b>

	Abdel Rahman			Madani Ali Abdel Rahman, who was arrested by State agents of North Darfur on 20 July while performing his duties as lawyer, has been the victim of acts of severe ill-treatments by Kutum Military Intelligence officers and police officers while in detention.
<b>SUDAN</b>	Hala Khalid Abuground	16/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention and ill-treatment of lawyer Hala Khalid Abugroun</b> Hala Khalid Abuground was detained for over five hours at the Khartoum Central Police Station on 17 August 2020. According to the information received, during her detention not only was she interrogated but also subjected to severe physical abuse which resulted in injuries to her right eye and knee that required hospitalisation.
<b>TAJIKISTAN</b>	Buzurgmehr Yorov	29/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> Buzurgmehr Yorov remains imprisoned after being convicted in October 2016. Mr. Yorov was arrested on 29 September 2015, after he started to represent thirteen senior leaders of the Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan (IRPT), which was banned by the Supreme Court of Tajikistan and declared a terrorist organisation in 2015. Almost a year later, on 6 October 2016, Mr. Yorov was convicted to 23 years of imprisonment. Although his sentence was reduced to six years, he still remains imprisoned.
<b>TANZANIA</b>	Tito Magoti	14/02/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> Human rights lawyer Tito Magoti was arrested in Dar es Salaam on 20 December 2019 and put in detention. Tito Magoti is now prosecuted under non-bailable economic charges. On 7 January 2020, the court in Dar es Salaam adjourned his case and the hearing was postponed again on 21 January
<b>TANZANIA</b>	Fatma Karume	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Disbarment</b> Fatma Karume was indefinitely suspended from practicing law in Tanzania by the High Court of Dar es Salaam following allegations of misconduct against her for the submissions she made in a case. Her hearing which was due to happen on 5 December 2019 was postponed indefinitely. 5 months later, no hearing in sight.
<b>TANZANIA</b>	Fatma Karume	29/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Disbarment</b> On 23 September 2020, the Advocates' Disciplinary Committee of Tanzania decided to permanently disbar lawyer Fatma Karume from practicing law in Tanzania. This Decision was adopted more than a year after the High Court had suspended Fatma Karume's licence on 20 September 2019.
<b>THAILAND</b>	Arnon Nampa	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest of Arnon Nampa</b> Arnon Nampa was arrested on 7 August and only released on bail 2 days after. He is being charged with, among other crimes, sedition and assembly with the intent to commit acts of violence.
<b>TURKEY</b>	8 imprisoned lawyers	14/02/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Hunger strike (continued detention)</b> These lawyers were sentenced to prison terms ranging from just over three years to just under 19 years for "founding and managing a terrorist organisation" and "belonging to a terrorist organisation". The lawyers have started a hunger strike.
<b>TURKEY</b>	Gulseren Yoleri	20/03/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest and judicial harassment</b>

				Human rights lawyer Gülseren Yoleri was arrested by police officers at her home in Istanbul on 6 February 2020. She was taken to the District Police Directorate to give a statement in relation to an investigation launched against her regarding a speech she gave on 12 October 2019. She was then released.
<b>TURKEY</b>	COVID-19 Imprisoned lawyers	01/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> An amendment in the penal system was discussed on 31 March to release a large number of prisoners in order to stem the spread of COVID-19 in Turkish prisons. However, those who have been imprisoned for certain charges including terror-related accusations are exempted from benefitting from this regulation. More than 300 lawyers are detained in Turkey under terror-related or political-related charges.
<b>TURKEY</b>	13 human rights lawyers	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Judicial harassment</b> The houses and offices of 13 lawyers were raided and all of them were taken to police custody for assisting a terrorist organisation through enabling communication between convicts in prison. 12 were released after being given a travel ban but Özbینگöl Çelik was kept in pre-trial detention for her representation of individuals charged with membership to a terrorist organisation.
<b>TURKEY</b>	Ebru Timtik and Aytac Unsal	07/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Death fast</b> Ebru Timtik and Aytac Ünsal, members of the ÇHD and the HHB, were sentenced to prison terms. The court had announced its verdict without hearing the lawyers' statements of defence. They commenced a hunger strike in protest of the irregularities in their trial and have now announced their intention to turn their strike into a death fast.
	Delegation of the EU to Turkey	07/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	Letter to alarm them of the situation of lawyers Ebru Timtik and Aytac Unsal who are currently on a death fast.
<b>TURKEY</b>	Turan Canpolat	19/05/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Detention</b> Turan Canpolat was convicted of representing companies which have been shut down by emergency decree laws and for downloading and using ByLock Messenger. Turan Canpolat has now been in prison for 50 months and is currently held in solitary confinement. His appeal is still to be considered by the Court of Cassation after 14 months
<b>TURKEY</b>	Concerns regarding the impact of law no. 7249 on Turkish bar associations	14/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Independence, integrity and freedom of expression of the legal profession</b> Law no. 7249 alters the number of delegates provincial bar associations can send to the Union of Turkish Bar Associations, mostly affecting the bar associations representing the largest number of lawyers by dramatically reducing their influence within the Union of Turkish Bar Associations. This law also allows any group of 2000 lawyers in provinces with over 5000 lawyers to set up their own bar association, which could lead to several bar associations being created in big cities where bars are representing a large number of lawyers.
<b>TURKEY</b>	Şiar Rişvanoğlu	17/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Break-in</b> An unidentified paramilitary group broke-in Siar Rişvanoğlu's office on 12 July. The windows of the door of the building were smashed and the perpetrators of the attack left a note containing death



				threats.
<b>TURKEY</b>	Ebru Timtik and Aytaç Ünsal	28/08/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Death fast</b> Lawyer Ebru Timtik died on 27 August 2020 as a result of the hunger strike, she had started in January 2020 fighting for a fair trial for her and her colleagues. She was accompanied in her fight by lawyer Aytaç Ünsal who started a hunger strike in February 2020 and who currently remains in a very critical state.
	Ebru Timtik et Aytaç Ünsal et situation des avocats en Turquie	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Mort d'un avocat et garantie d'un procès équitable.</b> Lettre commune adressée au Ministre des Affaires étrangères et de la Défense belge et au Commissaire européen à la Justice
<b>TURKEY</b>	48 lawyers and 7 trainee lawyers	16/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Mass arrest of lawyers</b> On 11 September 2020, the Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor ordered the arrest of several individuals, among whom were 48 lawyers and 7 trainee lawyers. We understand that this mass arrest comes as an aftermath of the recent intensification of measures taken against lawyers and the new law n°7249.
		17/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	Joint letter sent to the Turkish authorities
<b>TURKEY</b>	11 members of the board of the Istanbul Bar Association and 32 lawyers	08/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Arrest of 32 lawyers and prosecution of 11 members of the board of the Istanbul Bar Association</b> On 21 September 2020, 11 members of the board of the Istanbul Bar Association were informed by the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office of Istanbul that a criminal investigation had been initiated against them in relation to their acts in support of lawyer Ebru Timtik. In addition, on 22 September 2020, it is reported that 32 lawyers were arrested following an order by the Izmir Chief Public Prosecutor's Office.
<b>TURKEY</b>	14 human rights lawyers	08/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Upholding of the sentences of 14 human rights lawyers</b> On 15 September 2020, the 16th Panel Chamber of the Court of Cassation confirmed the prison sentences of 14 out of 18 human rights lawyers from the People's Law Office imprisoned in March 2019. The prison sentences were imposed on the charges of membership or aiding to a terrorist organisation and range between just over three years to 13.5 years.
<b>TURKEY</b>	Sevda Özbingöl Çelik	19/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Continued detention</b> Lawyer Sevda Özbingöl Çelik has been kept in pre-trial detention since 17 March 2020. It is reported that after multiple adjournments, her trial was scheduled on 2 October 2020, nonetheless, it was postponed once again until 17 November, on the grounds that there existed deficiencies in the investigation file.
<b>TURKEY</b>	20 human rights lawyers	23/11/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<b>Mass arrest of lawyers</b> On 20 November 2020, the Diyarbakir Chief Public Prosecutor's Office issued arrest warrants for

				more than 100 suspects as part of an investigation into the Democratic Society Congress (DTK) in Turkey's south-eastern Diyarbakir province. It is reported that the arrest warrant list includes at least 20 lawyers including very-well known human rights lawyers. It is also reported that their houses were raided by the police and computers, books, and many digital materials were confiscated
<b>TURKEY</b>	Aytaç Ünsal	15/12/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Situation of lawyer Aytaç Ünsal</b></p> <p>Aytac Ünsal was recently re-arrested by lifting the verdict of postponement of the execution of his sentence, which had been decided due to his health condition. It is reported that he has been transferred to the Edirne F-Type without even being taken to a judge, and ill-treatments against his person have been reported. In addition, during his time at home, he was daily harassed and threatened by the police. The police also raided his house without a warrant and destroyed all his furniture.</p>
<b>TURKMENISTAN</b>	Pygamberdy Allaberdyev	24/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Detention of Pygamberdy Allaberdyev</b></p> <p>Pygamberdy Allaberdyev was arrested on 5 September after an altercation with an unknown man. On 8 September, the Prosecutor's Office issued an arrest warrant against Pygamberdy Allaberdyev, who was charged with the crimes of intentional harm to health of moderate severity and hooliganism. It is reported that these charges seem to be related to his alleged links or discussions with Turkmen activists living outside Turkmenistan.</p>
<b>VENEZUELA</b>	General letter and Henderson Maldonado	08/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Situation of lawyers</b></p> <p>The humanitarian situation in Venezuela has reportedly been aggravated by the COVID-19 crisis, notably with an increase of cases of arrest and prosecution of lawyers. A worrying example concerns the arbitrary detention, torture and judicial harassment of human rights defender and lawyer Henderson Maldonado arrested on 31 March 2020 and released with charges under a number of precautionary measures and movement restrictions were imposed against him.</p>
<b>VENEZUELA</b>	Raquel Sánchez	19/10/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Harassment</b></p> <p>On 28 September 2020, while lawyer Raquel Sánchez was being interviewed, several unknown individuals threw stones at the lawyer's vehicle. We understand that this is not an isolated event. In particular, it was reported that, on 16 March 2020, the lawyer was denied access to the hearing of some of her clients and that, on 12 March 2020, she was arrested due to her participation in a peaceful protest.</p>
<b>VIETNAM</b>	Nguyễn Bắc Truyển	15/12/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Hunger strike of lawyer Nguyễn Bắc Truyển</b></p> <p>Lawyer Nguyễn Bắc Truyển, who was arrested on 30 July 2017 for allegedly taking part in anti-state activities, began a hunger strike to protest mistreatments by the prison authorities against him and other prisoners at the An Đầm prison in violation of Vietnam's 2019 Law on Execution of Criminal Judgments. It is reported that letters written to him have constantly been intercepted by the authorities and that he has not been given access to them. It was also reported that he has not received any medical check-ups or treatment in spite of several requests.</p>

<b>ZAMBIA</b>	John Sangwa	16/04/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Disbarment</b></p> <p>The Zambian Judiciary has barred constitutional lawyer Sangwa from appearing before any court in Zambia. Sangwa was reported to his professional body after he made some comments about a court. The ban is due to last until the Law Association of Zambia hears and decides on the complaint.</p>
<b>ZIMBABWE</b>	General Letter	17/06/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Situation of lawyers in Zimbabwe (Arrest)</b></p> <p>The Law Society of Zimbabwe has expressed its concerns over these constant arrests as a way to hinder their members from undertaking their professional duties.</p>
<b>ZIMBABWE</b>	Obey Shava	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Arrest of Obey Shava</b></p> <p>Obey Shava was arrested on 31 July and detained for approximately four hours, when he visited the Harare Central Police Station with three of his clients. In addition, it is reported that, during the detention, one of the clients was molested in the presence of the lawyer.</p>
<b>ZIMBABWE</b>	Beatrice Mtetwa	02/09/2020	Click <a href="#">here</a>	<p><b>Harassment of Beatrice Mtetwa</b></p> <p>On 14 August 2020, police officers harassed and intimidated Beatrice Mtetwa, by parking near her office, marching and singing. In addition, on 18 August 2020, the lawyer was disqualified by a Zimbabwean court from representing incarcerated journalist and human rights defender Hopewell Chin'ono.</p>