

Penal Reform International

Region: MENA (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq and Kuwait)



Organisation responsible: Penal Reform International.

Period: Since 2005

Activity: Penal Reform International is a specialist organisation which addresses the rights of suspects, offenders and prisoners in the context of the broader criminal justice system.

Objectives

- Developing gender-sensitive and child-friendly justice systems
- Promoting non-custodial sanctions, particularly for vulnerable groups
- Supporting countries to adopt national and integrated plans for reform
- Building regional human resource capacity through networks of expertise
- Promoting the abolition of the death penalty.

Description

Their working methods include:

- Raising awareness of regional and international human rights standards and norms, including through developing authoritative interpretations of these standards.
- Disseminating information about the implementation of regional and international human rights standards as well as examples of good practice from elsewhere.
- Championing the ratification of human rights treaties.
- Undertaking research.
- Assessing national criminal justice and penal systems according to their compliance with human rights standards, formulating recommendations for improvement, and developing projects to implement these recommendations.
- Providing training to build the capacity and skills of professionals such as prison staff, monitoring bodies, judges, social and probation workers.

Beneficiaries

Suspects, defendants, prisoners and former prisoners as well as prison staff and decision-makers.

GOAL 4: Ensure the protection of Human Rights in Counter Terrorism laws

(76) Monitor and denounce all policies to counter violent extremism and terrorism which curtail human rights and civil liberties of individuals, for example, in the form of punitive or insensitive national counter-terrorism or migration and asylum policies and legislations.

(77) Advocate for the suppression of counter-terror measures investing in “pre-crime” initiatives allowing security forces to prosecute for actions that have extremely tenuous links to actual behavior.