

## Death Penalty

**Submitted by:** The Advocates for Human Rights and the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

### MECHANISM

Universal Periodic Review

### SESSION

52nd Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

### DATE OF REVIEW

11 May 2026

**Summary:** Solomon Islands abolished the death penalty upon gaining independence in 1978 and is abolitionist for all crimes. The Constitution does not allow for the death penalty. Nonetheless, Solomon Islands has not ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights or its Second Optional Protocol. In its third-cycle Universal Periodic Review, Solomon Islands noted five recommendations pertaining to the death penalty, explaining that the country has limited resources and competing national priorities.

## Solomon Islands is abolitionist but has not yet ratified the Second Optional Protocol.

- Solomon Islands is abolitionist for all crimes and its Constitution does not allow for the death penalty.
- Solomon Islands has neither signed nor ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights or its Second Optional Protocol.
- In noting five recommendations on the death penalty during the third cycle in 2021, Solomon Islands stated that it has “limited resources and competing national priorities,” and that as a result the country takes a “precautionary approach to the signing and ratifying of all international conventions . . . because of the ‘reporting burden’.”
- Despite these claims about reporting burdens, in 2023 Solomon Islands ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.
- Solomon Islands voted in favor of the UN General Assembly resolution calling for a global moratorium on the death penalty in 2022 and 2024.

## Recommendations

- Take all necessary steps to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, without reservations.
- Request technical assistance with the ratification process from the Friends of the Second Optional Protocol.