

ongoing. The project had not been extended to other prisons by the end of the year.

1. Thailand: Attitude adjustment - 100 days under martial law (ASA 39/011/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA39/011/2014/en/aa43e6c9-f42e-4f45-8789-41cee8f2f51/asa390112014en.html
2. Thailand: Investigate grenade attack on anti-government protesters (News story)
www.amnesty.org/en/news/thailand-investigate-grenade-attack-anti-government-protesters-2014-05-15
3. Thailand: Submission to the UN Committee against Torture (ASA 39/003/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA39/003/2014/en
4. Thailand: Free speech crackdown creating 'spiral into silence' (Press release)
www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/thailand-free-speech-crackdown-creating-spiral-silence-2014-12-09 Thailand: Release activist imprisoned for allegedly insulting the monarchy (Press release)
www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/thailand-release-activist-imprisoned-allegedly-insulting-monarchy-2014-09-11 Thailand: Anniversary of activist's arrest a reminder of precarious state of freedom of expression (ASA 39/005/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA39/005/2014/en
5. Thailand: Alleged torture victim denied redress (Press release)
www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/thailand-alleged-torture-victim-denied-redress-2014-10-13 Thailand: 10 years on, find truth and justice for family of Somchai Neelapaijit (ASA 39/001/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA39/001/2014/en
6. Arbitrary detentions continue in Thailand (ASA 39/008/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA39/008/2014/en Thailand Threats to the lives of village leaders (ASA 39/009/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA39/009/2014/en

TIMOR-LESTE

Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

Head of state: **Taur Matan Ruak**

Head of government: **Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão**

Impunity persisted for gross human rights violations committed during the Indonesian

occupation (1975-1999). Security forces were accused of ill-treatment and unnecessary or excessive use of force. Levels of domestic violence remained high. Parliament passed a restrictive media law before the Court of Appeal declared it unconstitutional.

BACKGROUND

In March, two groups, the Maubere Revolutionary Council (KRM) and the Popular Democratic Council of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste (CPD-RDTL), were declared illegal by a parliamentary resolution for "attempting to cause instability". Two of their leaders were charged and were awaiting trial.

IMPUNITY

Little progress was made in addressing crimes against humanity and other human rights violations committed by Indonesian security forces and their auxiliaries from 1975 to 1999. Many suspected perpetrators remained at large in Indonesia where they were safe from prosecution.¹

In August, the Court of Appeal upheld the sentence of a former AHI (Aileu Hametin Integrasaun) militia member imprisoned for crimes against humanity committed in Aileu district around the 1999 independence referendum.

The Timorese government failed to implement recommendations from the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR) and the bilateral Indonesia-Timor-Leste Commission of Truth and Friendship (CTF) relating to impunity. Parliament continued delaying consideration of two draft laws providing for a National Reparations Programme and establishment of a "Public Memory Institute", a body which would implement the recommendations of the CAVR and CTF, including the reparations programme. A commission to examine enforced disappearances, recommended by the CTF, had not been established by the end of the year. Initiatives undertaken with the

Indonesian government to reunite children separated from their families in 1999 lacked transparency and adequate consultation with civil society.

JUSTICE SYSTEM

Reports continued of ill-treatment and unnecessary or excessive use of force by security forces. Accountability mechanisms remained weak.

Security forces reportedly arbitrarily arrested and ill-treated dozens of individuals in March allegedly linked to the two groups KRM and CPD-RDTL. Concerns were raised that the government may have violated the rights to freedom of association and expression by using parliament rather than the courts to declare the organizations illegal.

In October, the Timor-Leste parliament and government arbitrarily terminated the contracts of foreign judicial officers and advisors, raising serious concerns about judicial independence and impacting negatively on victims and their right to an effective remedy.²

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The 2010 Law against Domestic Violence continued to be used to prosecute cases of domestic violence but many challenges remained for victims seeking to access justice. According to NGOs, courts tended to hand down suspended prison sentences or fines instead of imposing terms of imprisonment.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION – MEDIA

In May, parliament passed a Media Law which would impose severe restrictions on journalists and on freedom of expression. In August, the Court of Appeal found the law unconstitutional and returned it to parliament for review.³ A revised law removing some restrictions was approved by the President in December.

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1. Timor-Leste/Indonesia: Governments must expedite establishing fate of the disappeared (Public statement)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA57/001/2014/en/865d8509-6e47-4778-a573-8fbb633b9b7c/asa570012014en.pdf
 2. Timor-Leste: Victims' rights and independence of judiciary threatened by arbitrary removal of judicial officers (ASA 57/003/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA57/003/2014/en
 3. Timor-Leste: Unconstitutional media law threatens freedom of expression (ASA 57/002/2014)
www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA57/002/2014/en/b24a55e6-5eae-4ced-afd7-9158aac52adf/asa570022014en.pdf

TOGO

Togolese Republic

Head of state: **Faure Gnassingbé**

Head of government: **Kwesi Ahoomey-Zunu**

The security forces repeatedly used excessive force to disperse demonstrations. Torture and other ill-treatment were used to extract confessions from detainees, and prisoners were denied timely medical treatment. Threats to freedom of expression persisted, with journalists targeted for ill-treatment.

BACKGROUND

Elections which had been postponed at least twice from October 2012 finally took place in July 2013. President Faure Gnassingbé's party, Union for the Republic, won an absolute majority. Opposition parties protested at the results, which were confirmed by the Constitutional Court. Prime Minister Kwesi Ahoomey-Zunu was reappointed in September 2013.

In February 2013, the National Assembly passed a law granting the High Authority for Audiovisual and Communications discretionary powers to impose sanctions on the media without recourse to the courts, prompting protests by journalists'