



European Union
Delegation to Singapore

Joint Local Statement on the death penalty case of Ramdhan bin Lajis in Singapore

8 January 2026

The Delegation of the European Union issues the following statement, together with the diplomatic missions of the EU Member States and the diplomatic missions of Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom in Singapore:

The EU Delegation and the diplomatic missions of the EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom call on the Singapore authorities to halt the executions of Mr Ramdhan bin Lajis and any other persons who might have been served execution notices, and to commute their sentences to non-capital sentences.

We are saddened by the resumption of executions, which follows at least seventeen executions in 2025, the highest annual number in Singapore for more than twenty years.

In keeping with our consistent strong and principled stance against the death penalty, we oppose the use of capital punishment in all cases and in all circumstances.

The death penalty is incompatible with the inalienable right to life and the absolute prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment. Moreover, imposing the death penalty for drug offences is incompatible with international law, as these offences do not meet the threshold of “most serious crimes”.

The available evidence does not support the use of capital punishment as a deterrent to crime and makes irreversible any possible miscarriages of justice. Furthermore, rehabilitation as an objective of modern criminal law is rendered impossible by the application of capital punishment.

Therefore, we will continue to work for the abolition of the death penalty in the few remaining countries that still apply it.