



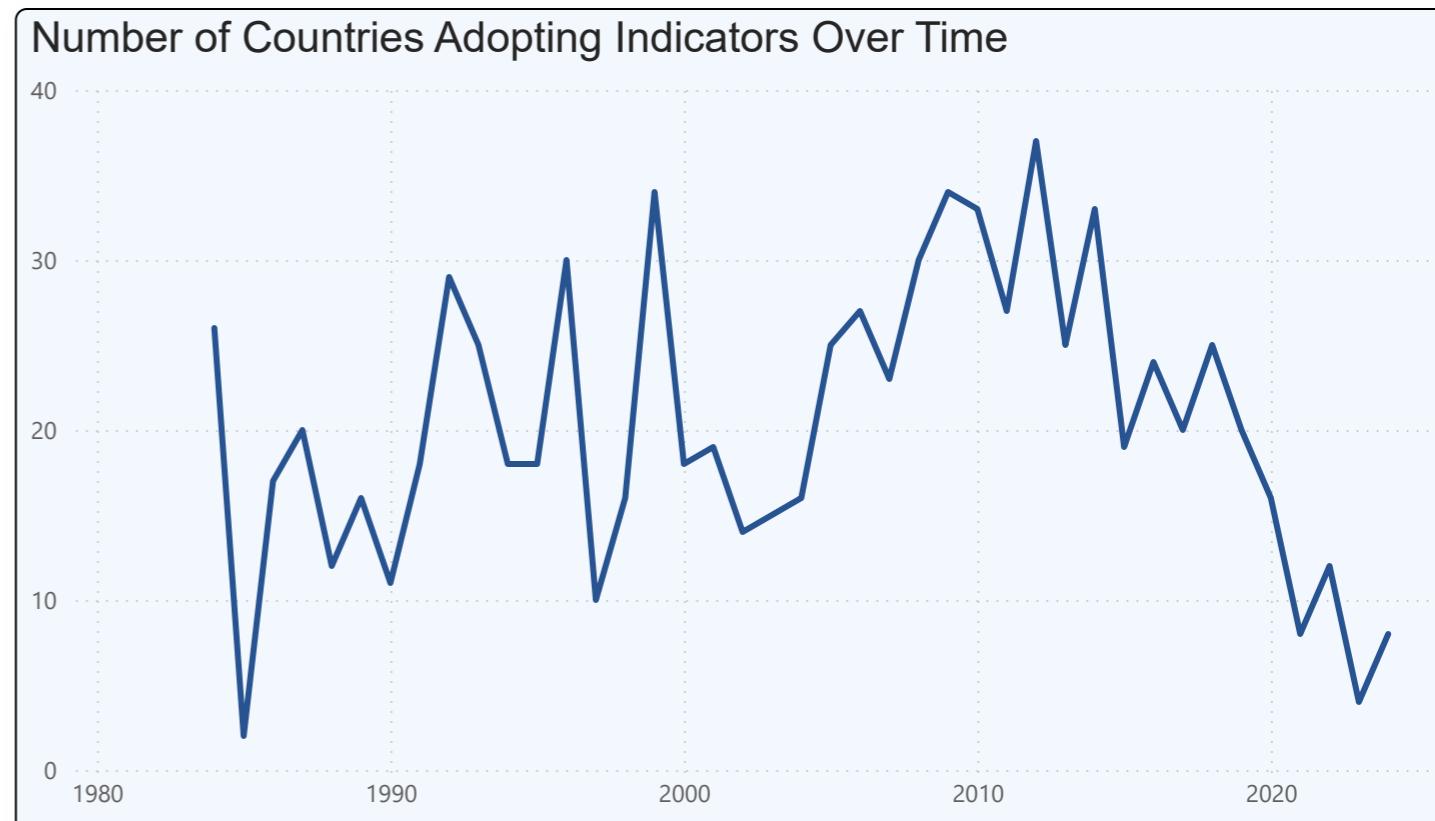
The Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) envisions **a world where no one is subjected to torture or ill-treatment—a world where human dignity is upheld in every corner, every day.**

For over 40 years, APT has championed the global fight against torture, helping to establish **a system of prevention rooted in evidence and collaboration. With a focus on places where individuals are deprived of liberty**, we use our expertise to reduce risks and protect the most vulnerable.

Despite its absolute prohibition, torture still exists in many countries, for various reasons, through many ways, both in times of war and peace. **Often, it targets the most vulnerable and marginalised groups.**

However, **there is reason for hope**. Since the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Torture in 1984, tangible progress has been made.

APT has identified **eight key indicators that form the legal foundation of torture prevention**, tracking advancements across all countries over the past four decades.



The data is clear: progress is possible, and together, we can build safer societies. Let's encourage states to adopt and implement the policies and frameworks that make torture a relic of the past.

Take the next step: explore the report and uncover key trends, regional insights, and opportunities for action. Together, we can strengthen the global commitment to ending torture.

[Explore Insights](#)



This report provides an opportunity to highlight inspiring **progress in the prohibition and prevention of torture over the past 40 years**, using data collected on 8 key legal indicators established by the Association for the Prevention of Torture(APT) since the adoption of the UN Convention against Torture in 1984.

95.92%

of 196 countries have adopted at least one indicator, with an **average of 4 indicators** adopted per country.



List of Legal Indicators and the Number of Countries Adopting Each

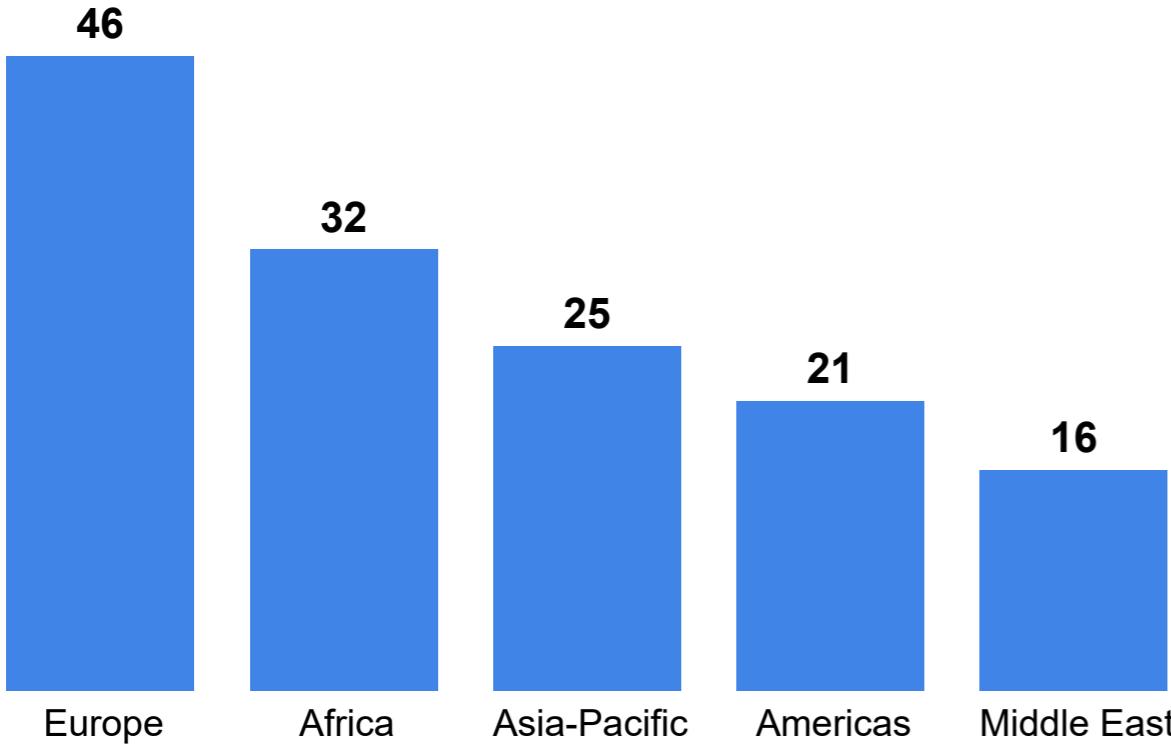
i Select an indicator by **clicking on a number**, then **click 'Drill Through'** for detailed analysis on the selected indicator.

Drill Through

	Indicator	No. Countries Adopting the Indicator
1	Ratification of the UN Convention against Torture	171
2	Prohibition of torture in the constitution	162
3	Submission of initial report to CAT	140
4	Ratification of Optional Protocol (OPCAT)	94
5	Existence of National Human Rights Institution that fully complies with Paris Principles	86
6	Designation of the National Preventive Mechanism (in law)	78
7	Operationality of the National Preventive Mechanism	75
8	Criminalisation of torture under domestic law	28

Regional Distribution of Indicator Adoption

Filters



This Indicator has been adopted by 71% of countries globally, with the majority of those countries about 33% coming from Europe. The line chart shows a notable increase in adoption around 1996.

Yearly Trends of Indicator Adoption (1984-2024)