

Dear Ambassador,

I am writing in concern for Magai Matioy Ngong, a 17-year-old on death row in South Sudan. He was 15 years old when he was convicted of the murder of his cousin and sentenced to death by hanging. During his trial, Magai told the judge that he was only 15 years old at the time of the crime and that his cousin's death was an accident. Magai did not have a lawyer during his trial.

Anyone below 18 years of age at the time they were involved in a crime, must not be sentenced to death, let alone be executed. How old they are at the time of trial or sentencing is not relevant. The use of the death penalty against people like Magai is strictly prohibited by Section 21(2) the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, 2011 and under international human rights law (Article 37(a) of the Convention on the Rights of a Child, to which South Sudan is a party.

Last year, seven people were hanged in South Sudan: one of them, like Magai, was just a child. This must stop and Magai's death sentence must be cancelled.

Yours Sincerely,

親愛的大使

這封信有關 17 歲的南蘇丹死囚馬蓋·馬地歐普·恩岡 (Magai Matioy Ngong)。馬蓋在年僅 15 歲時因謀殺自己的表親而遭判絞刑。審判時，他告訴法官這起事件發生時他只有 15 歲，且他的表親死亡是一起意外。馬蓋在審判期間沒有律師協助。

犯罪時年齡不超過 18 歲者，絕不能處以死刑、更別說處決，且審判時的年齡並無關聯。《南蘇丹共和國過渡時期憲法》第 21(2)條嚴格禁止處死像馬蓋這類的未成年者，《兒童權利公約》第 37(a)條也如此規範，而南蘇丹也是該公約的締約國之一。

南蘇丹去年有 7 人被處以絞刑，其中一人和馬蓋一樣只是小孩。這必須停止，馬蓋的死刑也必須撤銷。

敬此