

LIFE IMPRISONMENT

AN APPROPRIATE ULTIMATE PENALTY IN SCOTLAND?

A lecture by [Professor Dirk van Zyl Smit](#)

6pm on Monday 12 March 2018

Central Hall, 2 West Tollcross, Edinburgh EH3 9BP



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Are life sentences, from which offenders may never be released, human rights compliant? What could be the alternatives to life-long imprisonment?

Dirk van Zyl Smit is Professor of Comparative and International Penal Law at the University of Nottingham. Internationally, he has advised the governments of Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Malawi on new prison legislation and Malaysia on legislation on the international transfer of prisoners. He was expert adviser to the Council of Europe on the European Prison Rules (2006).

Latterly Dirk has been leading a major research study, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, on the use of life sentences around the world. The study is the first of its kind to consider the application of the life sentence systematically in comparative context.

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