

OFFENCES LEADING TO PRELIMINARY DEATH SENTENCES IN POLITICAL TRIALS

25 JANUARY 2011 - 23 SEPTEMBER 2018

The Index tracks the specific offences that led to death sentences in political trials. The majority of preliminary death sentences in political cases were related to charges of “storming government installations”, which is a reference to attacks on police stations and other government buildings, sometimes involving arson. On several occasions, these charges have been used to refer hundreds of people for preliminary death sentences simultaneously.

Other political offences leading to large numbers of death sentences included acts of terrorism and clashes in the context of protest sit-ins. Sit-in clashes also been a matter of intense public focus in Egypt recently, as a September 2018 mass trial of 739 defendants on charges related to a 2013 protest sit-in at Cairo’s Rabaa El-Adaweya Square led to 75 confirmed death sentences.

