



# Murder (Abolition of Death Penalty) Act 1965

## 1965 CHAPTER 71

An Act to abolish capital punishment in the case of persons convicted in Great Britain of murder or convicted of murder or a corresponding offence by court-martial and, in connection therewith, to make further provision for the punishment of persons so convicted. [8th November 1965]

### Extent Information

**E1** For extent of this Act in relation to Northern Ireland see [s. 3\(3\)](#)

### 1 Abolition of death penalty for murder.

(1) No person shall suffer death for murder, and a person convicted of murder shall <sup>F1</sup> . . . be sentenced to imprisonment for life.

<sup>F2</sup>(2) . . . . .

(3) For the purpose of any proceedings on or subsequent to a person's trial on a charge of capital murder, that charge and any plea or finding of guilty of capital murder shall be treated as being or having been a charge, or a plea or finding of guilty, of murder only; and if at the commencement of this Act a person is under sentence of death for murder, the sentence shall have effect as a sentence of imprisonment for life.

<sup>F3</sup>(4) . . . . .

<sup>F4</sup>(5) . . . . .

### Textual Amendments

**F1** Words in s. 1(1) repealed (25.8.2000) by [2000 c. 6, ss. 165\(4\), 168, Sch. 12 Pt. I](#) (with [Sch. 11 paras. 1, 2](#))

**F2** S. 1(2) repealed (18.12.2003) by [Criminal Justice Act 2003 \(c. 44\), s. 336\(2\), Sch. 37 Pt. 8](#)

*Status: Point in time view as at 28/03/2009.*

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Murder (Abolition of Death Penalty) Act 1965. (See end of Document for details)*

**F3** S. 1(4) repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by [Armed Forces Act 2006 \(c. 52\)](#), s. 383(2), [Sch. 17](#); [S.I. 2009/812](#), art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2009/1059](#))

**F4** S. 1(5) repealed (25.8.2000) by [2000 c. 6](#), ss. 165(4), 168, [Sch. 12 Pt. I](#) (with [Sch. 11 paras. 1, 2](#))

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

**C1** S. 1(1)(2)(3) repealed (S.) except so far as relating to courts-martial, by [Criminal Procedure \(Scotland\) Act 1975 \(c. 21\)](#), [Sch. 10 Pt. I](#)

**2** ..... <sup>F5</sup>

**Textual Amendments**

**F5** S. 2 repealed by [Criminal Justice Act 1967 \(c. 80\)](#), [Sch. 7 Pts. I, II](#)

**3 Short title, repeal, extent and commencement.**

(1) This Act may be cited as the Murder (Abolition of Death Penalty) Act 1965.

(2) ..... <sup>F6</sup>

(3) This Act <sup>F7</sup>... shall not extend to Northern Ireland.

(4) This Act shall come into force on the day following that on which it is passed.

**Textual Amendments**

**F6** S. 3(2) repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1974 \(c. 22\)](#), [Sch. Pt. XI](#)

**F7** Words in s. 3(3) repealed (28.3.2009 for specified purposes) by [Armed Forces Act 2006 \(c. 52\)](#), s. 383(2), [Sch. 17](#); [S.I. 2009/812](#), art. 3(a)(b) (with transitional provisions in [S.I. 2009/1059](#))

**4** ..... <sup>F8</sup>

**Textual Amendments**

**F8** S. 4 repealed by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1973 \(c. 39\)](#), [Sch. 1 Pt. V](#)

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**F9**SCHEDULE

**Textual Amendments**

**F9** Sch. repealed by Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1974 (c. 22), **Sch. Pt. XI**

.....  
**F9**

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 28/03/2009.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Murder (Abolition of Death Penalty) Act 1965.