

Cairo court upholds death sentences in murder case

An Egyptian court has upheld death sentences for nine people convicted of the murder of a top prosecutor in a car bombing three years ago. Hisham Barakat was killed in June 2015 when a bomb struck his convoy in Cairo after jihadist calls for attacks on the judiciary to avenge a crackdown on Islamists. Two years later a criminal court sentenced 28 people to death for their involvement in his murder, with only 15 defendants present in court for the verdict at the time. A report on the [News24](#) site notes that **the Court of Cassation has now confirmed the death sentence for nine of the 15**, while reducing the sentences of the six others to life imprisonment.