12 Years of Legacy in Guantánamo Bay

779 persons have been detained in Guantánamo of which only 2 have been convicted of a crime following flawed proceedings before military commissions.

615 prisoners have been transferred to 52 countries.

155 prisoners are still held in Guantánamo Bay.

149 prisoners are held although they have never been charged with a crime.

77 prisoners are imprisoned although the government cleared them for release.

0 prisoners have been released as a result of a legally binding decision of a US court.

45 prisoners cannot be prosecuted for lack of evidence but are considered ‘too dangerous’ for release facing indefinite detention without trial or charge.

9 prisoners died in custody, all of them under undeclared circumstances.

15 children under the age of 18 have been detained.

92% of prisoners have never been Al-Qaida fighters even according to the US.

6 years ago, President Obama promised to close Guantánamo within 1 year.

12 years after the first prisoners were transferred there is no closure in sight. It is not the location but the system of indefinite detention without trial or charge that remains the legacy.¹

¹ For these numbers see the Guantánamo Docket, New York Times, available online: <http://projects.nytimes.com/guantanamo>.