

# El Salvador's mega-prison

The U.S. has sent hundreds of migrants to El Salvador to be held without trial in a controversial supermax prison



EL SALVADOR  
San Salvador



CECOT

## CENTRE FOR CONFINEMENT OF TERRORISM (CECOT)

Largest prison in Americas with capacity for **40,000** inmates. Opened in Feb 2023

Total of **19** guard towers

Eight blocks, 32 cells each

50km  
30 miles

**Compound:** Surrounded by two electrified fences and two reinforced concrete walls

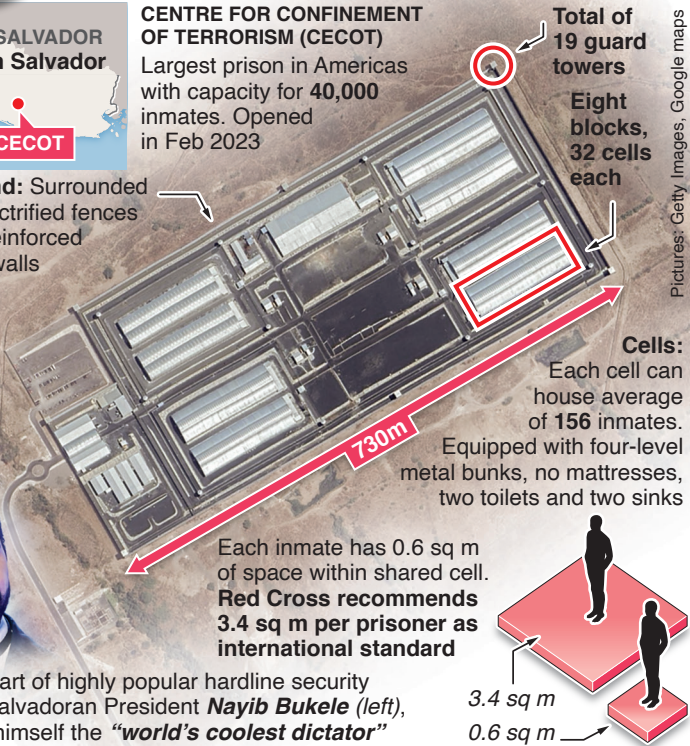
### Security:

Guarded by **600** soldiers and **250** police officers



Prison is part of highly popular hardline security policy of Salvadoran President **Nayib Bukele** (left), who calls himself the **"world's coolest dictator"**

Sources: Reuters, BBC, El Salvador government



Pictures: Getty Images, Google maps

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