

Main Submitter: Federative Republic of Brazil

Signatories: Socialist Republic of Vietnam, The Republic of Niger, Republic of The Gambia, United Mexican States, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Kingdom of Norway

Forum: General Assembly

Topic: "Capital punishment: questioning the legality and ethics behind the death penalty"

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the power of the death penalty and its potential for disaster,

Expressing its deep concern about the continued application of the death penalty,

Welcoming the steps taken by some States to reduce the number of offenses for which the death penalty may be imposed, as well as steps taken to limit its application,

Alarmed by the 24 countries that have had commutations of the death penalty in 2019, according to Amnesty International,

Deeply concerned by the number of people sentenced to death in the world in 2019, which is reported to be 2307 people according to Amnesty International,

Recalling the third article in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, signed by the 192 member nations, which states that everyone has the right to life,

Deeply regretting the unjust and the uneven use of the death penalty against convicted individuals around the world,

Noting with deep concern the amount of money (\$1.26 million on median) spent on the death penalty in the United States alone, which is much more costly than non-death penalties according to the Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) and instead could be used for educational purposes,

Further recalling the Second Option Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations moratorium on the death penalty, which aims to abolish the death penalty in times except warfare,

1. Encourages all member nations to sign and ratify the Second Option Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations moratorium on the death penalty in order to protect the rights of all individuals;
2. Affirms that countries, NGO's and all other relevant entities should respect the sovereignty and stability of each individual member states' legal and judicial system by:
 - a. Avoiding the imposition of sanctions or other punitive measures on countries legal systems,

- b. Fostering constructive and positive conversation on the gradual reduction of the death penalty, and
 - c. Understanding different legal, moral and cultural philosophies contributing to the use of capital punishment;
- 3. Calls upon all member nations to attend an international meeting hosted by Amnesty International and the United Nations in a location and time that will be determined by the organizations with the purpose of:
 - a. Evaluating the effects of the death penalty on the countries that still implement it, and
 - b. Discussing possible ways to help and train the convicts through educational programs to become beneficial to society;
- 4. Further encourages all Member States that have a death row in place to adopt a series of standards in regards to the implementation of inmates to the death row with charges such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Agravated Murder,
 - b. Terrorism-Related Offenses Resulting in non-death or death,
 - c. Robbery Resulting in death,
 - d. Espionage,
 - e. War Crimes, Genocides, and Crimes Against Humanity, and
 - f. Treason;
- 5. Calls upon Member States to embrace a series of standards that will exclude the following groups out of the death row with them belonging to categories such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Individuals below the age of 18 at the time of crime including pregnant women,
 - b. Individuals that are classified as mentally ill according to States' individual classifications, which include but aren't limited to:
 - i. Depression,
 - ii. Anxiety disorders,
 - iii. Schizophrenia,
 - iv. Eating disorders, and
 - v. Addictive behaviors;
- 6. Recommends all member nations form a death penalty check committee with the assistance of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) with the purpose of regulating the death penalty convictions, and making the convicts' rights aren't being violated;
- 7. Further recommends initiatives and political leadership encouraging national discussions and debates on the possibility of moving away from capital punishment;
- 8. Wishes to be seized on the matter.