



General Assembly

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Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item: Moratorium on the execution of the death penalty

Sponsors: China, Cuba, Iran, Japan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Thailand, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, and Vietnam

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, particularly the provisions in Article 14,

Recognizing the fact that the stances or interpretations of the death penalty differ in nations,

Affirming that this agenda is difficult to decide either to retain or abolish uniformly,

Emphasizing that each state has a right to decide its policy on executing the death penalty,

Noting the importance of reflecting public opinion for the decision.,

Regretting the situation where there are some countries executing the death penalty with many problems having remained,

Taking note of account the risk and the irreversibility of the death penalty,

Recognizing the need to maintain social security,

Taking into consideration that the definition of most serious crimes depends on each member states,

Noting that the execution of the death penalty without a fair trial system is likely to be considered a violation of human rights,

1. *Calls* upon all Member States to respect cultural differences and historical and religious backgrounds;
2. *Calls upon* retentionist states to introduce a moratorium on the death penalty, with the ultimate decision of whether to abolish or reinstate the death penalty left to each state's sovereignty;
3. *Calls upon* all nations to re-examine the necessity and the effectiveness of the death penalty in their nation;
4. *Calls upon* all nations to ensure that execution of the death penalty does not happen on pregnant women, persons with mental or intellectual disabilities;

5. *Calls upon* all nations to have opportunities for seeking pardon or commutation;
6. *Calls upon* all nations to ensure every suspect has a procedural guarantee to show their evidence;
7. *Calls upon* all states to only conduct the death penalty on the basic premise of guaranteeing the right to a fair trial for all;
8. *Requests* Member States to come together to hold a future conference to decide on the definition of “most serious crimes” mentioned in Article 6, Paragraph 2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
9. *Requests* Member States to provide information on the death penalty about:
 - a. The type of crime death penalty has been imposed on;
 - b. Recognized cases of the death penalty that have been carried;
10. *Requests* Member States not to be biased for specific minorities or races;
11. *Requests* Member States to attempt to construct a fair trial under the sovereignty of each country to respect the human right to life;
12. *Requests* Member States to ensure the financial support and protection to the direct families of persons subjected to the death penalty, safeguarding their socioeconomic well-being, and ensuring basic safety, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Counselling services for grief and trauma;
 - b. Funds for burial or memorial expenses;
 - c. Support for relocation due to mental health or safety concerns;
 - d. Financial help for dependent children.
13. *Encourages* Member States with the capacity and willingness to assist other retentionist nations that request financial aid in adopting the needed capital punishment to employ humane methods of execution, through the OHCHR, to provide technological and collaboration assistance projects;