

Steering Committee members:

Amnesty International, Arab Coalition Against the Death Penalty, Collectif Unitaire National de Soutien à Mumia Abu-Jamal, Coalition nationale pour l'abolition de la peine de mort au Maroc, Community of Sant'Egidio, Death Penalty Focus, Culture pour la Paix et la Justice, Ensemble contre la peine de mort, International Federation of Human Rights Leagues, Fédération Syndicale Unitaire, International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture, Lawyers For Human Rights International, Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights, National Association of Criminal Defence Lawyers, Paris Bar, Penal Reform International, Puerto Rico Bar Association, Taiwan Alliance to End the Death Penalty, Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, Tuscany Region.

Other members:

ACAT France, Advocates for Human Rights, American Friends Service Committee, Association for the Rights to Live, City of Andain, Association Marocaine des Droits Humains, Bahrain Human Rights Society, Belarusian Helsinki Committee, City of Braine l'Alleud, Centre for Prisoner's Rights, Centre marocain des droits humains, Coalition nationale tunisienne contre la peine de mort, Collectif des Organisations des Jeunes Solidaires du Congo-Kinshasa, Comité des Observateurs des Droits de l'Homme, Comitato Paul Rougeau, Comité Syndical Francophone de l'Education et de la Formation, Conférence Internationale des Barreaux, Congolese Youth Movement, Conseil National pour les Libertés en Tunisie, CURE, Death Watch International, City of Dijon, Federation of Liberal Students, Forum Africain contre la Peine de Mort, Forum 90 Japan, Forum marocain pour la Vérité et la Justice, Foundation for Human Rights Initiative, Hands Off Cain, Hope & Justice, Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, HURILAWS, International Organization for Diplomatic Relations, Iranian Human Rights Activists Groups in EU and North America, Iraqi Alliance for the Prevention of the death penalty, Iraqi Center for Human Rights and Democracy Studies, Italian Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, Journey of Hope, KontraS, Law Student's Forum, Legal and Human Rights Centre, Lifespark, Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, Ligue ivoirienne des Droits de l'Homme, Lutte Pour la Justice, City of Matera, MEDEL, Mothers Against Death Penalty, Mouvement contre le Racisme et pour l'Amitié entre les Peuples, National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, National Lawyers Guild, Nigerian Humanist Movement, Observatoire marocain des prisons, Observatoire National des Prisons, Ordine Provinciale dei Medici-Chirurghi e degli odontoiatri di Firenze, Ordre des avocats du Barreau de Liège, Ordre des avocats des Hauts de Seine, Ordre des Barreaux francophones et germanophones de Belgique, Organisation marocaine des droits humains, Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Pax Christi Uvira asbl, People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, Puerto Rican Coalition against the Death Penalty, RADHOMA, City of Reggio Emilia, Rights and Democracy, ROTAB, Stop Child Executions, Union Chrétienne pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits de l'Homme, Unis pour l'abolition de la peine de mort, US Human Rights Network, City of Venice, Victorian Criminal Justice Coalition, Women's Information Consultative Center, World Organisation against Torture.

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**EL SALVADOR**

In view of the 7<sup>th</sup> Universal Periodic Review of the United Nations Human Rights Council, the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), would like to communicate several points concerning the situation of the death penalty in El Salvador.

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP) gathers 96 members: human rights organizations, professional associations and local authorities on the five continents who have united to campaign for the universal abolition of the death penalty. It was founded in 2002 in Rome. Its actions for 2009 and 2010 include the World Day Against the Death Penalty, a ratification campaign of the United Nations Protocol aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, a campaign for the implementation of the UN moratorium resolution, and the preparation of the 4th World Congress against the Death Penalty.

**Death penalty**

1. There has been no execution in El Salvador since 1973 and the death penalty was abolished for ordinary crimes in the Constitution in 1983. Article 27 of this Constitution states that "*The death penalty may be imposed only in cases provided by military laws during a state of international war*".

As the constitution of a given country is the reflection of the supreme values of this country, those who have restricted the use of the death penalty in their constitution demonstrate the importance they give to this decision.

Furthermore, El Salvador has showed its involvement against the capital punishment by voting in favor of the two resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly about a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (resolution 62/149 and 63/168) and by being a co-sponsor of the resolution 63/168 adopted at the United Nations General Assembly on 18 December 2008.

2. However, El Salvador has not ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. This Protocol is extremely important because it is the only international treaty of worldwide scope to provide for total abolition of the death penalty. The adoption of this Protocol also has a symbolic value: it shows the universal trend towards the abolition of the death penalty, which is considered as a violation of the right to life. It is of utmost importance that all abolitionist countries in the world ratify this Protocol.

3. The WCADP thus urges El Salvador to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

It also encourages El Salvador to abolish the death penalty for all crimes, including in times of war.