Steering Committee members:


Other members:


In view of the 8th session of the 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 Armenia.

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP) gathers 101 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 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. Armenia is an abolitionist country for all crimes and has never carried out any executions since its independence. As a member state of the Council of Europe, it has ratified Protocol No. 6 to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR) and signed Protocol No. 13 to the ECHR to abolish the death penalty under all circumstances, in times of war as in peacetime. It is one of four Council of Europe member states (out of 47) which have signed but not ratified this Protocol.

2. Armenia has recently demonstrated its attachment to the most important human rights values: it ratified an important United Nations treaty, the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture in 2006; it signed Protocol 13 No. 13 to the ECHR in 2006 and it has shown its involvement against capital punishment by co-sponsoring and voting in favor of the two resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (resolutions 62/149 and 63/168 of the 18 December 2007 and 2008).

Executive Secretariat:

ECPM
3, rue Paul Vaillant Couturier
92320 Chatillon, France
Tel: + 33 1 57 63 09 37
Fax: + 33 1 57 63 89 25
contact@worldcoalition.org
3. However, Armenia 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.

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