



International Commission  
against the Death Penalty

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Federico Mayor

**Members**  
Giuliano Amato

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## **Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: Mongolia abolishes the Death Penalty**

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) welcomes the historic vote on 3 December 2015 by legislators in Mongolia supporting the coming into effect of a new Criminal Code, which abolishes capital punishment for all crimes. The Criminal Code will be enforced from September 2016 and will make Mongolia the 102<sup>nd</sup> country to remove the death penalty from its statute books.

“ICDP and I warmly congratulate Mongolia, one of the founding members of our Support Group, for taking this historic decision to bring into effect the new penal code that ensures the effective end to executions in the country. In taking this step, Mongolia has shown an inspirational example which we hope other States in the region will follow in consolidating the global trend towards abolition of the death penalty,” said ICDP President Federico Mayor.

ICDP believes that the death penalty violates the fundamental right to life proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and should not be applied in any circumstances, regardless of the gravity of the crime.

By abolishing capital punishment, ICDP is pleased to note that Mongolia joins the growing number of countries that support the respect for the fundamental right to life and, thereby, human dignity. According to the United Nations, some 160 countries from all regions in the world have abolished the death penalty or do not execute having recognized that modern justice systems can protect the public without the death penalty’s cruelty and constant risk of executing an innocent person.

Federico Mayor  
President of the International Commission  
against the Death Penalty



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## Background

Composed of 17 persons of high international standing from all regions of the world who act with total independence and neutrality and work under its President Mr Federico Mayor. ICDP opposes the death penalty under any circumstances believing that it violates the right to life enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Commission promotes the abolition of capital punishment in law in those states that observe a de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty and promotes moratoriums on executions in states that rarely use the death penalty. In states that continue to carry out executions, ICDP urges strict adherence to international standards. The Commission works with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations to further the abolition of capital punishment worldwide. The work of the ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 18 states from all regions of the world that are committed to abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Madrid.