



Doc. 16375 rev
21 April 2026

Towards the universal abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances

Amendment¹ No. 2

tabled by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

In the draft resolution, replace paragraph 8 with the following paragraph:

"The Assembly notes that the death penalty has not been applied in Israel since 1962 and that Israel has voted in favour of UN General Assembly resolutions for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty since 2007. The Assembly condemns the adoption of legislation by the Knesset on 30 March 2026, which extends the use of the death penalty to "murderous terrorist attacks". The new law introduces default death sentences by military courts for West Bank residents, excluding Israeli residents or citizens, with a simple majority of the judicial panel for conviction. It prohibits the reduction, commutation or pardon of the death sentence. Within the civil courts system in Israel, the law allows for the imposition of the death penalty for "terrorist murders carried out with the intent of negating the existence of the State of Israel". This has clear discriminatory effects against Palestinians. In both cases, the method of execution will be hanging, and execution procedures will be characterised by secrecy and a lack of safeguards. The Assembly also notes that the law is currently being challenged before the Supreme Court of Israel. The adoption of this law represents a clear setback in Israel's long-standing stance on the use of the death penalty, placing the country away from the growing international consensus in favour of abolition. It is incompatible with the values of the Council of Europe and in violation of Israel's obligations under the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights."

1. 2026 - Second part-session

