



**International Commission  
against the Death Penalty**

**President**

Navanethem (Navi) Pillay

**Members**

Louise Arbour

Marc Bossuyt

Marzuki Darusman

Ruth Dreifuss

Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis

Asma Jilani Jahangir

Sylvie Kayitesi

Ioanna Kuçuradi

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Ibrahim Najjar

Bill Richardson

Hanne Sophie Greve

Horacio Verbitsky

**Honorary Members**

Giuliano Amato

Robert Badinter

Mohammed Bedjaoui

Marta Vilardell

Federico Mayor Zaragoza

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero

**Founding Member**

Rodolfo Mattarollo,  
(1939-2014)

**Secretariat**

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**Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty:  
12th meeting of Commissioners in Madrid**

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP or Commission) held the 12th meeting of its Commissioners in Madrid on 2 and 3 October 2017.

ICDP Vice President Judge Navanethem (Navi) Pillay was elected as the new President after ICDP's founding President Mr. Federico Mayor announced his retirement. Commissioner Ibrahim Najjar was elected as the new Vice President of ICDP. He joins Commissioner Ruth Dreifuss as ICDP's two Vice Presidents. President Pillay and Vice Presidents Dreifuss and Najjar will be joined in the Commission's Steering Committee by new members Commissioners Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis and Hanne Sophie Greve, who were elected as two additional members of this Committee. During the meeting, the Commissioners welcomed Professor Baron Marc Bossuyt and Mr. Marzuki Darusman, and confirmed Professor Ivan Simonovic, former UN Assistant Secretary General and former Minister of Justice of Croatia, as the new ICDP Commissioners.

On 2 October, the Commissioners discussed the activities undertaken since the last Meeting of the Commissioners in October 2016. The Commissioners noted the several missions undertaken by ICDP Commissioners and staff, including those to Belarus, Jamaica, Uganda, United States of America, and Geneva, Switzerland. They deliberated on the strategies and the action plan for the next year, including future missions. The Commissioners also discussed ICDP's financial situation including the budgets for 2016 and 2017 as also the proposed budget for 2018 and the fundraising activities of the Commission.

On 3 October, the Commissioners met with Member States of the Commission's Support Group as part of ICDP's General Assembly. During the Assembly, Germany was welcomed as the 19<sup>th</sup> Member-State of ICDP's Support Group.

Judge Navi Pillay  
President  
International Commission  
against the Death Penalty



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## Background

Composed of 21 Commissioners, who are persons of high international standing from all regions of the world, ICDP acts with total independence and neutrality and works under its President Judge Navi Pillay.

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.

ICDP 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 ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 19 States from all regions of the world that are committed to the abolition of the death penalty. Its secretariat is based in Madrid.