



International Commission  
against the Death Penalty

**President**

Federico Mayor

**Members**

Giuliano Amato

Louise Arbour

Robert Badinter

Mohammed Bedjaoui

Ruth Dreifuss

Michèle Duvivier  
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**Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: Former Prime Minister of Spain, Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero accepts to be part of the International Commission against the Death Penalty**

The President of the International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) Federico Mayor announced that the former Prime Minister of Spain Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero has accepted to be part of the Commission.

“Mr. Zapatero was the driving force behind the 2010 Spanish government’s initiative to establish the International Commission against the Death Penalty. We are delighted that he is joining us as an Honorary Member” said Federico Mayor, the President of the Commission.

According to the UN over two-thirds of all States – more than 150 countries from all regions and cultures – have now rejected capital punishment because of its inherent cruelty, its ineffectiveness at deterring crime and the ever-present risk of executing the innocent.

There is a clear global momentum towards eradicating the death penalty.

“Mr. Zapatero’s commitment to the cause of abolition of the death penalty and his international standing will further strengthen the ICDP’s work as it strives to convince retentionist States that the death penalty has no place in a modern justice system”, said Federico Mayor.

Experience worldwide shows that executions do not deliver public safety or deter violent crime, but instead it endorses violence, damages society and risks the killing of the innocent.

Federico Mayor

President of the International Commission  
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## Background of the ICDP

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP) was founded in Madrid in October 2010. ICDP is now composed of 14 personalities 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 enriched in the Universal Declaration of Human rights. ICDP 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.

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 the ICDP is supported by a diverse group of 16 states from all regions of the world that are committed to abolition of the death penalty. There is small secretariat in Geneva which is responsible for organizing the work of the ICDP.