



**International Commission
against the Death Penalty**

President

Navanethem (Navi) Pillay

Vice-Presidents

Ruth Dreifuss

Ibrahim Najjar

Members

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Marc Bossuyt

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Marta Vilardell

Founding Member

Rodolfo Mattarollo,
(1939-2014)

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Madrid, 22 February 2018

ICDP 003/2018

Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: ICDP welcomes former President of Mongolia Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj as its new Commissioner

The International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP or Commission) warmly welcomes former President of Mongolia Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj as its new Commissioner.

“I am very happy that President Tsakhiagiin Elbegdorj is joining the members of the ICDP in our struggle to make the world free of the death penalty. Having been one of the leaders of the peaceful revolution that ended the dictatorship in 1990, Mr Elbegdorj was Mongolia’s Prime Minister in 1998 and again from 2004 to 2006 and President of Mongolia from 2009 to 2017.

“I am particularly pleased to note that President Elbegdorj showed great political leadership and will in leading Mongolia to abolishing the death penalty during his Presidency. In 2010, President Elbegdorj commuted all death sentences and announced a moratorium on all executions. In 2012, Mongolia ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, an international treaty committing the country to the abolition of the death penalty. On 1 July 2017, Mongolia became death penalty abolitionist when its new Criminal Code, which abolishes the death penalty for all crimes, became effective after it was initially adopted by the Mongolian Parliament on 3 December 2015. The abolition of the death penalty in Mongolia, which represents a beacon of hope in the North-east Asian region, is truly President Elbegdorj’s legacy.

“By his decisive actions and leadership in furthering his country’s respect and protection for the fundamental right to life, and by his important interventions in international forums, President Elbegdorj has emerged as a much respected voice in favour of the abolition of the capital punishment. I believe that Mr. Elbegdorj’s expertise, experience and international prestige will be outstanding assets for our Commission and we look forward to work with him. I join my fellow Commissioners in welcoming him,” said ICDP President Judge Navi Pillay.



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Background:

ICDP Commissioners are persons of high international standing from all regions of the world who act with total independence and neutrality and work 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.