



International Commission
against the Death Penalty

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Navanethem (Navi) Pillay

Vice Presidents

Ruth Dreifuss

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José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero

Marta Vilardell

Founding Members

Rodolfo Mattarollo

(1939-2014)

Asma Jilani Jahangir

(1952-2018)

Bill Richardson

(1947-2023)

Robert Badinter

(1928-2024)

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North-South Prize
of the Council of Europe



René Cassin

Madrid, 30 May 2024

ICDP 07/2024

Statement by the International Commission against the Death Penalty: Launch of the Spanish Version of the Report on “Children, Youth and Death Penalty”

On 21 May 2024, the International Commission against the Death Penalty (ICDP or Commission) celebrated a public event to launch the Spanish version of its report on *Children, Youth, and the Death Penalty (Niños, Jóvenes y Pena de Muerte)*. The event was held at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (MAEUEC).

The event featured the participation of ICDP President Judge Navi Pillay, ICDP Commissioner Marta Santos Pais (who led the drafting of the report) and Prof. Jorge Cardona Llorens, former Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, a video message from H.E. Prof. Michael O’Flaherty, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe and a panel of young people who represented voices of the youth as they presented their reactions to the conclusions of the report.

To mark the launch of the ICDP report in Spanish language, which was translated by the Language Interpretation Office of the MAEUEC, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation H.E. José Manuel Albares, ICDP President Judge Navi Pillay and ICDP Commissioner Marta Santos Pais [published an online op-ed article titled “La pena de muerte: aún un riesgo para niños y jóvenes”](#) in the digital Spanish newspaper InfoLibre. The article highlights the main issues related to, and difficulties caused by, the application of death penalty on children and youth as addressed by ICDP’s report.

The ICDP report [Niños, Jóvenes y Pena de Muerte](#) depicts the situation of the death penalty and children within the overall context of capital punishment, referring to the international instruments aimed at the protection of these vulnerable groups and analyzing the persistent and important challenges posed by age-determination mechanisms. The report identifies strategic actions to address persisting concerns and eight recommendations.

The original English language version of the report [Children, Youth, and the Death Penalty](#), was launched on 6 June 2023 at a well-attended event at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Background

Composed of 24 Commissioners of high international standing following highly respected careers in public service and representing all regions of



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the world, the International Commission against the Death Penalty acts with total independence under the leadership of President Navi Pillay.

The Commission promotes the abolition of capital punishment in law in States that observe a *de facto* moratorium on the use of the death penalty and promotes moratoriums on executions in States that retain capital punishment. ICDP works with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations to advocate for worldwide abolition of the death penalty.

The work of ICDP is supported by a geographically diverse Support Group of 24 Member States who are committed to the abolition of the death penalty. Its Secretariat is based in Madrid and is responsible for the day-to-day work of the Commission.



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