

By: Daniel Vallarta

Death Row: To Save a Life or to Pay the Price?

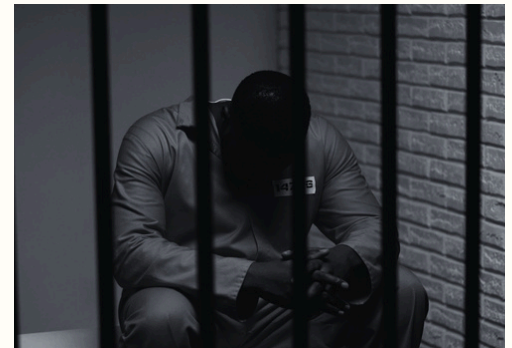
With huge effort to make their stances, the Human Rights Council addressed a problem with capital punishment, or better known as the death penalty. Delegates went back and forth between whether the death penalty should be completely abolished or if some countries need it to enforce order. Some delegates even suggested, and tried, the idea of incentive persuading others to get them on their side. Their points made a clear view that life is a hard thing to hold when it comes to crime, and whether using more violence to solve it would be a tough decision to make.

Different countries had different points to make about the use of death penalty. Anti-penalty delegates, such as the U.S., Denmark, Nigeria, Ireland, Austria, Turkey, and more proposed that capital punishment was to be abolished and replaced with other, more fair punishments. These could include life in prison or rehabilitation, giving time and resources to those who plead innocence. On the contrary, countries like Iraq, Russia, Iran, Indonesia, and Vietnam make a great and bold claim that capital punishment isn't for everyone, but some countries may need to use it as crime rates, government size, and country development can affect their needs. They say that only in the extreme situations will the death penalty be used, and they can work to improve the certainty of guiltiness as to not incorrectly convict those of crimes they did not commit. Russia was one of the first to speak their mind, implying that they want to ride solo and keep to themselves, asking that they let every country decide what they want to do about the matter. They also brought up the fact that some countries may not be able to afford the prices to start a program for the rehabilitation process for everyone.

“The death penalty... should only be exercised in extreme stances.”

–Iran

The delegates that are anti-death penalty suggest the solution to help those countries that are less developed carry through with abolishing the death penalty by supplying them with resources. This is an incentive to get more countries on their side to stand against capital punishment. The pro-death penalty delegates are firm on their point, however, wanting the others to stay out of their problems and let them keep laws that they pass. As the press could not find a conclusion during the time we were there, we can only predict what might have happened. The pro-death penalty delegates brought amazing arguments that made their points stand out to the press, but unfortunately, the anti-death penalty seem to have the upper hand because of the sheer numbers that they hold. Many people think of the death sentence as a bad thing, causing many countries' opinions to already be swayed in one direction. This is only the Press Corps guess, however, so these are not able to be factually correct.



CRISIS UPDATE

Breaking news in Bangladesh, one of the world's largest refugee camps faces mass displacement because of Bangladesh's deportation enactment. The refugees try to go back to their home country, but are refused. These people face major abuse of all kinds because they do not belong to a country of their own and therefore have no protective government. The UN Human Rights Council is trying to contact countries to allow the refugees to reside for now. We can certainly hope that these poor souls find their way to their home where they rightfully belong, but, unfortunately that's all we can do for now.

“The death penalty... goes against basic human rights, and... with the council we can aid those abolish it.”

–Austria