**FORUM**: Human Rights Council

**QUESTION OF**: The abolishment of the death penalty

**SUBMITTED BY**: Serbia

**CO-SUBMITTED BY**: Albania, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Holy See, Interpol, Ireland, Kenya, Lithuania, Mauritius, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Rwanda, Slovakia, Spain, Turkmenistan, UNICEF, Zimbabwe

**THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL,**

*Deeply concerned that* religion, race or sexuality often influences the penalty,

*Further concerned* that in some States individuals below the age of 18 have been executed, which is against the international law,

*Bearing in mind* the position of each State with regards to this issue,

*Disturbed* that 36 States actively practice capital punishment,

*Affirming* the right to life and stating that abolition of the death penalty is essential for the protection of human rights,

*Taking cognizance of the fact* that over 50 States have not enforced any death sentences for a decade or more,

*Expresses its deep concern* about the continued application of the death penalty,

1. Urges Member States to save the money spent on the death penalty every year and spend it on different causes such as, but not limited to;

a) Education,

b) Health care,

c) Other services that a country can benefit from;

2. Calls upon all Member States that still maintain the death penalty to:

1. Increase the requirements of proof needed before the sentence, to avoid unnecessary mistakes occurred in the past,
2. Reduce the number of offences for which it may be imposed,
3. Provide experienced and professional lawyers if one cannot afford it, as in the International law it is stated that no one can be put away without a fair trial,
4. Use humane methods of execution, such as:
   1. Lethal injections,
   2. Firing squad;
5. Urges Member States, which have abolished the death penalty not to reintroduce it, and to encourage other States to share their experiences in this regard;
6. Suggests that there should be an international law stating for which crimes the capital punishment may occur;
7. Further stresses to remove the death penalty for sexual orientation;
8. Suggests that all the Member States that have not used the death penalty in the past ten years should abolish it completely;
9. Calls for Human Rights Watch to increase their monitoring on countries who still practice the death penalty;
10. Stresses the United Nations to remain active on the matter, as it is still a serious problem and far from being solved.