

Committee: Social-Cultural

Subject: Euthanasia

Submitted by: Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Italy, the United States of America, Bolivia, and Norway

The General Assembly,

Noting that 47% of cases of euthanasia in Flanders (Belgium) are not properly reported to the authorities,

Bearing in mind the successive use of euthanasia on patients with terminal illness which can be interpreted as dying without suffering or as a form of suicide,

Deeply concerned that the use of euthanasia will increase and be abused and will cause increased suicide cases in countries,

Desiring that countries come together to completely terminate the use of euthanasia,

Emphasizing the fact that in the majority of countries euthanasia does not follow and is against the leading religion there because it's seen as humans interfering with God's plan for how long they should live,

Fully believing that euthanasia is fully the patient's decision and can be used to free people who are suffering a fatal illness from their pain,

Citing the fact that euthanasia is considered assisted suicide and there are instances in the UK and many other countries where it was treated as murder and manslaughter,

Realizing that euthanasia also requires a lot of money especially regarding developing countries that may not possess the funds for the high drug prices and the medical action required for euthanasia,

Noting that Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism are all relevant and worldwide religions that are actively practiced by over 5 billion people and are comprehensively against euthanasia as they believe birth and death should be left in the hands of God,

1. Further invites the United Nations to pass laws for the making and the use of euthanasia especially regarding the legal age for the usage of passive euthanasia being recommended to only be administered to those above the age of eighteen;
2. Encourages the United Nations to draft a treaty that urges all countries to engage in more research for alternative uses to euthanasia;
 - a. Medicinal marijuana
 - b. Hospice care
 - i. Through the expansion of the Single National Healthcare System to allow for more monetary funds to be funneled into creating more centers specific for hospice care
 - c. Palliative care;
3. Recommends that the United Nations encourage governments to develop enhanced hospitality, care systems and further medical research to attempt to cure more terminal illnesses instead of using euthanasia;
4. Calls for an improvement of education of all healthcare professionals and patients contemplating euthanasia that countries should sign this treaty as it decreases the level of assisted suicide and saves a lot of capital that is used in making euthanasia and pleases the public as it decreases controversy regarding religious beliefs
 - a. In most nations where euthanasia is legal and prevalent practice, such as the Netherlands, more than 60% of cases were not reported truthfully, 50% of patients who chose euthanasia were not given transparent consultation on alternatives, and 25% of patients did not consent to a legal injection
 - b. In hospitals where euthanasia is conducted, monthly meetings and educational seminars need to be conducted to update healthcare professionals on current euthanasia policies, as well as alternatives to the practice to allow patients to be fully knowledgeable on their options

- i. Alternatives to euthanasia may include:
 - 1. Hospice for children and elderly patients
 - 2. Improved pain management
 - 3. 24-hour patient care and group therapy sessions
 - ii. These alternatives to euthanasia have been proven effective in numerous nations, such as Kazakhstan;
- 5. Authorizes the establishment of a universal protocol for all euthanasia procedures
 - a. These pro-euthanasia hospitals must also establish a set of procedures and precautions that doctors must complete before conducting euthanasia
 - i. Patients must be fully disclosed of their alternatives without any bias present in the discussion
 - ii. Families must be fully informed and present as medical professionals explain the procedure and the alternatives, as well as the reality of the aftermath of losing a member to euthanasia, the fact that suicide rates amongst families have increase by 6.3% with the passing of pro-euthanasia legislation
 - iii. Patients must be fully evaluated by therapists and given an opportunity to attend group counselling sessions, seeing as more than 50% of patients in the Netherlands were never allowed this opportunity
 - iv. Other healthcare professionals and members of hospital boards must be present or fully informed of the procedure in advance, so they are able to decide whether or not euthanasia is the most appropriate option for an individual;
- 6. Requests that there be an increase in hospital security and monitoring
 - a. There also needs to be an overall improvement of hospital monitoring and security, seeing as 25% of patients who had been contemplating euthanasia in the Netherlands were given lethal injections without any consent
 - i. This can be done by daily reports given by healthcare professionals on the status of their patients, as well as information given by families in order to create transparent reports that do not

allow for lethal injections or other practices to be given without consent

ii. Nations are also encouraged to enforce stricter legislation for healthcare professionals who choose to conduct euthanasia on patients without following thorough procedures;

7. Endorses the establishment of a global forum for all countries to input their religious and political perspectives on euthanasia and all related practices in order to educate all countries and their citizens

a. This forum will be available to all government personnel, as well as accessible by citizens with access to technology, and it will provide transparent information regarding any nation's position on euthanasia, how many citizens choose this procedure, and alternatives countries are also providing to citizens contemplating this procedure

i. By creating this global forum, individuals will be able to form their own opinions on euthanasia by fully researching why some countries allow it and why other, such as Kazakhstan, do not;

8. Encourages more nations to establish hospice care centers for children with terminal diseases or elderly patients, where they are given 24-hour treatment and counselling catered to their illnesses

a. This alternative to euthanasia has proven effective in Kazakhstan with the expansion of the Single National Healthcare System

i. In just 2014, the nation was able to open 8 palliative care facilities, 3 hospice facilities, 4 nursing centers, and endorsing the inclusion of 10-15 palliative care rooms on each floor of cancer detection centers, where euthanasia procedures are most common

ii. Through modeling more medical centers off of Kazakhstan's Single National Healthcare System, as well as expanding upon the efforts of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, more funds will be allocated to the establishment of more hospice care centers;

9. Encourages The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization works to promote compassionate care by training medical professionals and medical students and residents on the importance of palliative care, as well as managing pain and how to fully disclose patients on palliative care;
10. Endorses Palliative care promoted by the NHPCO is usually conducted in a patients home, where they are able to be surrounded by loved ones, which also promotes more compassionate treatment;
11. Accepts the creation of a hotline specifically for patients contemplating euthanasia
 - a. Though this is catered more for patients with access to technology, currently more than 55% of citizens around the world have access to the Internet
 - i. Establishing an online hotline for terminally ill patients will allow them to have constant contact to a grief counsellor who may be able to provide emotional support for any patient;
12. Further recommends that governments who do not promote euthanasia pass stricter legislation banning the practice, while also making this procedure more expensive and palliative care less expensive and more available to all citizens
 - a. In most European countries, even where the practice of euthanasia is not recommended, the produce costs less than 50 pounds, which is less expensive than any other medical treatment that may allow individuals to better manage their pain or stay in hospice centers
 - i. With the passing of stricter legislation, healthcare professionals who choose to follow through with euthanasia will be severely punished, which will lead to an overall decrease in the practice;
13. Requests that governments raise the price of the euthanasia procedure by
 - a. Raising the price of the procedure, which will lower its availability, but in return governments must be willing to lower or cover the cost of hospice care for terminally ill patients
 - i. Though this may not allow governments to earn as much money as they would otherwise, organizations such as the

National Hospice Foundation will afford to cover most of the costs of raising the price of euthanasia;

14. Endorses the education of the public on euthanasia
 - a. The public can be educated on the matter of euthanasia through public seminars in rural communities and social media platforms for those citizens with access to the Internet
 - i. Through working alongside the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition, communities can be better equipped with educational materials, events, participates in public debates, and promote the circulation of newspaper articles
 - ii. These resources will be able to better educate individuals with little education on euthanasia, in hopes of allowing them to research all alternatives and the dangers of euthanasia;

15. Requests that the United Nations reevaluates its stance on euthanasia and further requests that it does not pass the legislation to include euthanasia in its definition of the right to life
 - a. With the United Nations declaring euthanasia as an aspect of the universal human right to life, more hospitals will only allow more and more individuals with terminal illnesses to seek out euthanasia as their only option
 - i. This will also diminish the need for a proper protocol for euthanasia to ensure that the patient is fully informed
 - ii. The United Nations supporting this law will also support the growing culture of death – where individuals value death over life
 - b. Before the United Nations decides to include euthanasia under the definition of a right to life, leaders must convene and sit-in on classes explaining the reality behind euthanasia, including the increase of suicide rates with the passing of the pro-euthanasia laws
 - i. This vote should also consider what the general public wants for their global community;

16. Requests that in order for this vote to take place, citizens must be presented with the proper tools to further educate themselves.