

**SECOND OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, AIMING  
AT THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY**

*The States Parties to the present Protocol,*

*Believing* that abolition of the death penalty contributes to enhancement of human dignity and progressive development of human rights,

*Recalling* article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted on 10 December 1948, and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted on 16 December 1966,

*Noting* that article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights refers to abolition of the death penalty in terms that strongly suggest that abolition is desirable,

*Convinced* that all measures of abolition of the death penalty should be considered as progress in the enjoyment of the right to life,

*Desirous* to undertake hereby an international commitment to abolish the death penalty,

*Have agreed* as follows:

*Article 1*

1. No one within the jurisdiction of a State Party to the present Protocol shall be executed.
2. Each State Party shall take all necessary measures to abolish the death penalty within its jurisdiction.

*Article 2*

1. No reservation is admissible to the present Protocol, except for a reservation made at the time of ratification or accession that provides for the application of the death penalty in time of war pursuant to a conviction for a most serious crime of a military nature committed during wartime.