



UPDATE N°7 - CAMPAIGN FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE UN PROTOCOL TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY

This document presents the recent evolution of the campaign. This update will be published every other month to give information about the campaign development (status of ratifications, actions taken by the World Coalition and its members) and suggest taking action in the target countries.

For more details please refer to our website: <http://www.worldcoalition.org/protocol>

As of 1 May 2011, 73 States are parties to the Protocol, and 3 States have signed the Protocol but have not ratified it yet.

Latest Developments

- **Latvia**: The Latvian Minister of Justice and the President of the Legal Commission of the Latvian Parliament wrote to the World Coalition indicating that a bill to abolish the death penalty for all crimes, including in times of war and to ratify Protocol 13 to the European Convention on Human Rights and Protocol 2 to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights will soon be put to vote.
- **Armenia** indicated that the procedure to ratify Protocol 13 to the European Convention on Human Rights was initiated.
- **Poland** contacted the World Coalition stating that no ratification is likely to take place before the next parliamentary elections in October 2011.

New official support to the campaign

In late April, the World Coalition received an official letter of support from the **Secretary General of the Council of Europe**.

A meeting of the group of countries "Friends of the Protocol" was held in March. All the "Friends" were represented and new strategies were developed to increase the number of countries in this group.

Actions taken in March and April 2011

Lobbying Target countries:

- Response sent to the Minister of Justice and member of the Latvian Parliament
- Contacts with representatives of Armenia and Poland
- Mission of the Paris Bar in Armenia during which the issue of ratification was discussed.

Lobbying of International Organizations:

- Meeting with representatives of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg to discuss common strategies for the ratification in the European countries.
- Resolution of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe calling member states to ratify the Protocol 2, among other things.
- Participation to the 16th session of the UN Human Rights Council.



Take Action Now!

For May and June 2011, we encourage you to send official letters to:

→ Angola

H. E. Mr. Jose Eduardo Dos Santos
President

Palácio Presidencial
Luanda
Angola

Mrs. Guilhermina Contreira Da Costa
Prata

Minister of Justice
Rua 17 de Setembro,
Luanda
Angola

→ Bolivia

H. E. Mr. Evo MORALES AYMA
Presidente del Estado Plurinacional de
Bolivia

Calle Ayacucho esquina Comercio s/n
La Paz
Bolivia

Ms. Nilda Copa
Minister of Justice

Avenida 16 de Julio N°1769
La Paz
Bolivia

You will find advice and model letters in the [Lobbying Kit](#) that you may download online:
<http://www.worldcoalition.org/modules/news/article.php?storyid=94>.



All the ratification kits are now available in Spanish!

Agenda for May and June 2011:

- 28 April - 12 May: 49th Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Banjul, Gambia
- 2 - 13 May: 11th session of the UPR, review of Latvia, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 30 May - 17 June: 17th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council. Report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 20 - 24 June: Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France.