



THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE GREATER CARIBBEAN

11th World Day against the Death Penalty

CALL FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE MANDATORY DEATH PENALTY FOR ALL CRIMES IN BARBADOS AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

We, the undersigned, call upon the Governments of Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago to enact legislation that would lead to the abolition of the mandatory death penalty for all crimes.

The United Nations Human Rights Committee has said that “the automatic and mandatory imposition of the death penalty constitutes an arbitrary deprivation of life, in violation of article 6, paragraph 1, of the [International] Covenant [on Civil and Political Rights], in circumstances where the death penalty is imposed without any possibility of taking into account the defendant’s personal circumstances or the circumstances of the particular offence.”

Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago are the only 2 countries that continue to hand down the mandatory death penalty for murder in the Caribbean.

Since 2009, the Barbadian authorities pledged to abolish the mandatory death penalty in order to comply with two Inter-American Court of Human Rights judgments.

Although the criminal justice system must, through fair and effective measures, prevent and curb violent crimes and protect victims, we hold that the death penalty is a human rights violation, that it is not a deterrent, it does not make societies safer, and it does not address the root causes of crime and violence.

We call for courageous political leadership in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago to abolish the mandatory death penalty for all crimes as a first step towards full abolition.

Prefix, First name and Last name*	Email Address*	Street Address, City, Country and Zip Code*	Signature

Please return this petition before 10 December 2013:

World Coalition Against the Death Penalty
69, rue Michelet - 93100 Montreuil – France

* You want your personal information to remain private? You are having problems signing this or you want to add a personal comment? Please let us know: contact@worldcoalition.org