

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union concerning the abolition of the death penalty in Chile

The European Union welcomes the promulgation by the President of Chile, Ricardo Lagos, of a law that abolishes the death penalty in time of peace. This constitutes an important step to enhance human dignity and contributes to the respect for human rights in the country.

It also constitutes an important step on the path towards the universal abolition of the death penalty.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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