

***Conference: BESTMUN***

***Committee: LEGAL***

***Topic: Legality of Euthanasia***

***Country: Belgium***

***Delegate: Nehir KOYUNCU***

 Life is a journey from the moment of birth to the moment of death. People strive to maintain their lives as healthy as possible. But sometimes some diseases can be incurable, getting worse and causing severe pain. In such situations, people can wish for their own death to happen. It is possible for the person to feel so helpless and to want his own death to be carried out medically. At this point, the definition of euthanasia emerges. The word euthanasia means ending a person's life by leaving the person's living unit with an injection that will cause their death with little or no pain because their life has become unbearable. However, the legality of this medical event is still a matter of debate.Because some people call it a merciful death but some people think it's a suicide.

 I want to say that as Belgium's delegate, we strongly support euthanasia. We think that a person is responsible for his own body and it is a violation of human rights to keep him alive even though he wants to end his own life. According to this argument, just as it is not illegal for a person to commit suicide, euthanasia should not be. Also, The Convention on Human Rights establishes that everyone has the right to life, but also that they cannot be tortured or subjected to degrading conditions. That is, just as a person has the right to live, he also has the right to die. Of course, the level of development of countries also affects their perspectives on this issue.

Belgium may seem like a small country to you, but Belgium is a densely populated country that manages to balance commercial, intensive agriculture, urbanization, transportation and industrial demands. Plus, the education level, health needs and rights and freedoms of the people living in our country are the most important for us.

In recent years, we have introduced many developments and new rights regarding euthanasia in our country. For exemple, The physician should convey the decision to perform euthanasia or PAS to a review committee, which assesses the report and may ask for verbal or written testimony. In 2014, Belgium also formulated a special law for euthanasia of terminally ill children. However, the child must ask for the procedure and verify that they understand what will happen.

 In conclusion, we still do not understand how such freedom is forbidden in some countries. It is very important for us to hear people's opinions first hand at this conference because we care about euthanasia for many more reasons.