

Position Paper

Country: Saudi Arabia

Committee: WHO

Agenda Item: Legalization of Euthanasia



Saudi Arabia, officially Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, is located in Western Asia. It covers the vast part of the Arabian Peninsula with 2,150,000 km² of land, which makes it the fifth largest country in Asia. In addition to being a member of the G20 forum, Saudi Arabia is currently the largest exporter of petroleum in the world. Despite natural reserves being the foremost economy, Saudi Arabia has launched its Saudi Vision 2030 program in 2016. The program includes the steps to reduce its dependency on oil and diversify its economic resources. Besides having a powerful economy, Saudi Arabia has a population of around 35 million, which makes it the 41st most populated country. To fulfill the demands of the 21st century, Saudi Arabia must develop highly skilled population, which puts education at the center of Vision 2030. The country has made a huge progress in expanding access to education. With the help of the Ministry of Education, Saudi Arabia analyses the strengths and challenges of the country's education system and makes recommendations to help improve student learning.

Euthanasia has been a discussion for years throughout the world. There are countries that made euthanasia fully legal, some made it possible with the approval of the city court. And there are countries that still are strictly against euthanasia because of religion, or the big consequences of misuse of euthanasia. As Saudi Arabia, we are greatly against euthanasia, or any kind of application leads to the deprivation of the life of oneself. The Islamic code of law discusses many issues regarding life and death, as it considers any act of taking one's life to be forbidden; furthermore, according to Quran, holy book of the Islamic world, life is sanctified, and depicted as a gift from God. Therefore, Muslims have no right to end their life nor another's. Research done show that when a person's belief in god is stronger, he/she has more tendency to reject the application of euthanasia and assisted suicide. From an Islamic point, the authority over someone's life only belongs to God itself. Another issue that has to be pointed is that when the application is legal, there will be innocent people who will be forced to get euthanasia by murderers, serial killers, mafia, etc. With that, these people won't be accused for anything as they didn't harm them directly.

We as Saudi Arabia strongly believe that legalizing euthanasia is not a solution for people's both mental and physical diseases. A situation mentioned in the study guide, which is "A young female stated that she may commit suicide if there will not be any changes in the law allowing her to choose to end her life legally while she was suffering from a chronic obstructive lung disease.", shows that one of the reasons why people have euthanasia is the lack of healthiness. By diagnosing, even curing their diseases at the young ages will inhibit their willingness to kill themselves. This can only work with the improvement of the health care system and funding helpings to the families who are facing problems about paying their children's treatment. In addition, everybody has one issue in common: economy. Poor economy is another reason why people intend to kill themselves. Not being able to feed their children, send them to schools, afford their health treatments, etc. drag people into killing themselves. By creating job opportunities for these people, we can stop their families dividing apart. Euthanasia is not the solution nor the assisted suicide.

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