Committee: WHO

Topic: Euthanasia

Country: North Macedonia

Delegate: Utku Bal

North Macedonia is a small independent country in Europe. Euthanasia is illegal in North Macedonia. This leads to many people suffering from incurable and/or people suffering from an irreversible coma. However there are many reasons why euthanasia is illegal in North Macedonia such as; religion fear of dying when people see other people dying. Some people will also put pressure on others to “do the right thing” and kill themselves. Some people will also choose euthanasia just because they can’t afford treatment for their illness. Euthanasia is fundamentally incompatible with the doctor’s role. The doctor’s role is to heal who are in need not to kill the ones who are suffering from illnesses or the ones who are in comas. This is one of the many reasons why Euthanasia would be nearly impossible to control. Religion plays the biggest role in North Macedonia about Euthanasia. 60.44% of North Macedonians believe in Christianity. Suicide is a sin in Christianity. 32.17% of North Macedonians believe in Islam. Suicide is also a sin in Islam. 7.26% of North Macedonian’s religions and beliefs are unidentified so we don’t know if Suicide is a sin for those people. 0.59% of North Macedonians are Atheists or Agnostics. So more than 92% of people probably won’t choose Euthanasia even if it was legal because it’s a sin. It’s safe to say North Macedonia will not change their policies about euthanasia any time soon. North Macedonia agrees with The UN about not legalising euthanasia. Only 4 countries has legalised euthanasia which are: The Netherlands, Belgium Luxembourg and Canada. The UN states that “a mentally or physically disabled person should enjoy a full and decent life in conditions which ensure, dignity promote self-reliance and facilitate the persons active participation in the community” which is just an example of the many statements against euthanasia. North Macedonia agrees with this statement.

The World Medical Health Association (WMA) also gas consistently and categorically rejected euthanasia as being unethical. North Macedonia also thinks this way and thinks that euthanasia shouldn’t be allowed. No matter what. However euthanasia has many pros too. We can choose all kinds of things in life so many civilians think you should have a choice about what happens to yourself only you. Euthanasia also integrates compassionate care and respect for the patient’s autonomy and ultimately makes death with dignity a real option. Part of doctor’s job is to make people have a better death euthanasia is one of the best ways of dying. It is painless and quick. It would be unfair and inhuman to make people endure unbearable pain. If individuals are in conditions where effective treatment wouldn’t affect their quality of life it seems reasonable to give these individuals the choice between life and death. Euthanasia should be a natural extension of patient's rights allowing him to decide the value of life and death for him/her. Maintaining life support systems against the patient's wish is considered unethical by law as well as medical philosophy. If the patient has the right to discontinue treatment why would he not have the right to shorten his lifetime to escape the intolerable pain? Isn’t the pain of waiting for death frightening and traumatic? North Macedonia still disagrees with euthanasia being legalised because it has more cons than pros.

Referances:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/euthanasia>

<https://euthanasia.procon.org/top-10-pro-con-arguments/>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/221800224\_Attitude\_of\_the\_Macedonian\_Intensivists\_Regarding\_Withdrawal\_of\_therapy\_in\_Intensive\_Care\_Patients\_Curriculum\_for\_Policy\_Development

https://www.coe.int/en/web/cooperation-in-police-and-deprivation-of-liberty/hf-ii-north-macedonia-enhancing-penitentiary-system-external-oversight-mechanism/-/asset\_publisher/MKddvYjrWfdD/content/healthcare-and-prison-staff-trained-on-applying-the-first-suicide-prevention-strategy-in-north-macedonia?inheritRedirect=false&redirect=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.coe.int%2Fen%2Fweb%2Fcooperation-in-police-and-deprivation-of-liberty%2Fhf-ii-north-macedonia-enhancing-penitentiary-system-external-oversight-mechanism%3Fp\_p\_id%3D101\_INSTANCE\_MKddvYjrWfdD%26p\_p\_lifecycle%3D0%26p\_p\_state%3Dnormal%26p\_p\_mode%3Dview%26p\_p\_col\_id%3Dcolumn-4%26p\_p\_col\_pos%3D2%26p\_p\_col\_count%3D3