



Country: New Zealand

Committee: World Health Organisation Committee

Topic: Legalization of Euthanasia

The legalization of euthanasia is one of the pressing issues of the current age. New Zealand believes that euthanasia should be a legal choice for people who are eligible for certain criteria that are strictly supervised by both medical professionals and the government.

With the aforementioned criteria being:

- Being at least 18 years old
- Suffering from terminal illnesses that have a high risk of death within 6 months
- Being in full possession of all mental faculties
- Experiencing high levels of pain and suffering that can not be physically tolerated by that person

New Zealand aims to ensure that only the people who truly need euthanasia will be able to request the procedure and therefore unnecessary usage will be averted.

As a country that prioritizes the free will and choices of its citizens, New Zealand held a referendum regarding the legalization of euthanasia in the year of 2020. Following the %65 vote rate in favor of the End Of Life Choice Act, which states that if a person meets the criteria to have an assisted death it should be their legal right, New Zealand decided to legalize euthanasia.

New Zealand is aware of the fact that people may struggle and need support in the process of deciding on euthanasia. Keeping this in mind, New Zealand efficiently runs a program to help these people, which is the SCENZ ( The Support and Consultation of End of Life in New Zealand) group. The SCENZ group works on illuminating and helping people that are confused, concerned, etc. which also aims to prevent the exploitation and misuse of euthanasia.

We understand that the topic is controversial among some of the member states, however, New Zealand wants to emphasize that with the right regulations, euthanasia can help people who are suffering from terminal diseases, unbearable pain, and more. Therefore encourages the united nations to legalize euthanasia for people who are in need of it.