State: Czech Republic

Committee: WHO

Topic: Legalization of Euthanasia

Euthanasia is a commonly discussed matter especially in terms of medical ethics. This practice generally includes the terms such as passive and active euthanasia. In general terms, the meaning is to put an end to a patient’s life in particular cases. Although it is practiced in some cases, the convenience of euthanasia isn’t yet proven. As the delegation of Czech Republic, we believe medical ethics and transparency within healthcare practices are reasonable important. And thus, we believe all countries around the world must be aware of the fact that health is a major responsibility to both society and people. Topics such as euthanasia or any other controversial health associated practices demand a certain level of research and discussion as they are more than a treatment. Moreover, in this specific case, we will be engaging in further discussions and exchanges in WHO committee in order to come to conclusion about this aforementioned agenda item.

Bearing in mind that WHO’s main objective is to attain the highest level of health in a common ground, this kind of discussions take equal place at WHO policies as emergency situations. We sincerely believe the goal will be achieved within the committee with relevant causes. As Czech Republic, we would like to declare that we do not and support the legalization of euthanasia. Regarding the actual status of the health services around the world, we do not believe a such practice would be justifiable. Moreover, we have come to a conclusion that euthanasia is a dangerous act which is too risky to be implemented. Furthermore, we are aware of the fact that world evolving and changing especially in terms of medical technology but unfortunately no cause will justify the legalization of assisted suicide and also no prevention will reduce the risks which comes with the act itself. Therefore, we believe at the end of this committee, all member states shall come to end and decide upon whether euthanasia should or shouldn’t be legalized. As we have stated before we do not support that kind of act. We hope we have expressed well our concerns about the ongoing discussion.

As the delegation of Czech Republic, we would like to underline that we take this issue seriously and thus, we invite every member state to think thoroughly in order to decide behalf of their country. It is a well-known fact that, euthanasia isn’t a proven medical act as it is considered ethically wrong. As a result of this, it hasn’t been actively used in history as a solution and also it hasn’t been considered as a sub-branch of a treatment. It has been a controversial thing to do and thus, in Czech Republic’s territories it is strictly illegal to perform. We would never authorize an invalid health act which can result in negative ways both medically and legally. According to researches, this practice doesn’t have a clear background and valid arguments so it is better not to allow it. As we have stated before, we care about transparency in our healthcare system and thus, we would choose a safe way and work to provide the best healthcare to everyone living in our country as it is a human right. We believe there are more humane and ethical ways to rise the life standards of a patient who is in pain rather than euthanasia. Moreover, according to doctors and medical field workers’ statements about this topic, it can be concluded that this kind of act demands a lot of responsibility and precaution and creates dilemma. Also, statistics about the euthanasia problem within the society showed us that the majority of people would rather that law should be kept the way it is and assisted suicide should be also kept illegal. If there’s no demand it is irrelevant to take such major risks.

But in terms of solutions, what can or should be done? Firstly, an international law must be agreed upon this subject in order to prevent confusions. This law must contain every detail possible and it should be implemented by all signatory states. In addition to that our main objective must be keeping healthcare accessible and available but also ethical and reasonable.

**References:**

TEDUTRAIN’22 WHO Study Guide

University of Missouri School of Medicine, Clinical Ethics Committee, Euthanasia article

L’Euthanasie du Point de Vue de Droit Européen, Abdullah Karaaslan