 

**Country: Chile**

**Committee: Legality of Euthanasia**

**Delegate: Ceyda Genç**

Chile is a country located on the western coast of South America. Chile's territorial shape is among the world's most unusual. From north to south, Chile extends 2,653 mi. Chile is the longest country in the world by this distance. Much of northern Chile is desert; the central part of the country is a temperate region where the bulk of the population lives and where the larger cities, including Santiago, are located. The country has a population of about 20 million people and the capital Santiago covers 3 to 1 of it. Chile's judiciary is independent and includes a court of appeals, a system of military courts, a constitutional tribunal, and the Supreme Court of Chile. The Congress of Chile has a 43-seat Senate and a 155-member Chamber of Deputies.

Euthanasia is a topic that has been discussed from the past to the present. People have many different views about euthanasia; both morally and ethically. Euthanasia refers to deliberately ending someone's life, usually to relieve suffering. Doctors sometimes perform euthanasia when it's requested by people who have a terminal illness are in a lot of pain. It's a complex process and involves weighing many factors. Local laws, someone's physical and mental health, and their personal beliefs and wishes all play roles.

In Ancient Greece and Rome, before Christianity, euthanasia and suicide had tended to be tolerant between 5th Century B.C – 1st Century B.C. Although the Hippocratic oath prohibited doctors from giving "a deadly drug" to anybody, some ancient Greek or Roman physicians followed the oath faithfully. From the 12th Century to the 18th Century, euthanasia was not tolerated by the Christian Society. In the 18th Century with the renaissance and reformation, the attitude to euthanasia changed, the church was challenged on this issue. In 1870, Samuel Williams first proposed using anesthetics and Morphin to intentionally end a patient's life. Euthanasia is legal in the Netherlands for the first time in the world since the law of April 12, 2001, was adopted and entered into force on April 1, 2002. After the Netherlands, it was adopted by Belgium in 2002, Luxemburg in 2008, Colombia in 2015, Canada in 2016, New Zealand, and Spain in 2021 in the world.

In Chile, we have a law on passive euthanasia that was passed on 13 April 2012, but our councils continue to work intensively on active euthanasia. In our country, on 12 December 2020, the active euthanasia bill was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 79 to 54. These days, it continues to be discussed in the Senate as well. As Ricardo Celis, Chairman of the Health Commission, said, "This is not an action against life. This is an act of humanity, an act of responding to people who have no other medical alternative or cure." Our people and we are trying very hard to pass the euthanasia law. Euthanasia should be accepted and approved by the whole world as soon as possible. Everyone should be offered a choice and an exit door. Desperate people should be given hope. We don't tell people to just kill themselves, we have to implement it in a way that doesn't come out of a certain framework. The procedure for the draft law adopted by the House of Representatives;

What grounds should the patient invoke to request medically assisted death?:

1.- Have been diagnosed with a terminal illness, or

2.- When the patient meets the following conditions copulatively:

a) Has a serious and incurable disease or ailment.

b) Their medical situation is characterized by an advanced and irreversible decline in their capacities.

c) His or her illness, infirmity, or advanced and irreversible impairment of his or her abilities causes him or her persistent and intolerable physical or mental suffering which cannot be alleviated under conditions which he or she considers acceptable.

What requirements must the applicant meet?:

a) Comply with the grounds.

b) Be over 18 years of age.

c) Be aware at the time of the request. If the patient is unconscious and the condition is irreversible or is deprived of his mental faculties, medical assistance for death shall be provided only in the event of a declaration contained in a document of advance consent.

d) To have the certification of a psychiatrist or a physician specializing in family medicine stating that at the time of the application the applicant is in full use of his mental faculties, ruling out mental health diseases that affect the will of the patient.

e) Express, reasoned, repeated, unequivocal, and free from any external pressure.

We believe that euthanasia is a fundamental right that should be offered to people within the framework of these limitations. Based on "personal autonomy-the right to choose" (the basic principle of respecting the individual's right to choose). We will fight with all our might for the whole world to accept and implement this.