



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 – 2014

5.7.2010

0058/2010

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the abolition of the death penalty and the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal

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Lapse date: 11.11.2010

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PE445.587v01-00

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United in diversity

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Written declaration on the abolition of the death penalty and the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal

The European Parliament,

- having regard to ECHR Protocol No 6,
 - having regard to the second Optional Protocol of the ICCPR,
 - having regard to the Amnesty International report on Mumia Abu-Jamal (2000) calling for a new trial,
 - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the death penalty is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and violates the right to life, as declared in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
- B. whereas there is no evidence that the death penalty deters crime more effectively than other punishments,
- C. whereas over 20 000 men, women and children are on death rows around the world (Amnesty International Report, 2006),
- D. whereas evidence shows that mainly underprivileged people are on death row,
- E. whereas Mumia Abu-Jamal has been on death row since 1982 following an unfair and racially-motivated trial,
1. Strongly calls on the EU and its Member States to enforce the implementation of the UN resolution on a universal moratorium on executions with a view to total abolition in all states which still practise the death penalty;
 2. Calls on the Member States and their political representatives to support a fair trial for Mumia Abu-Jamal;
 3. Encourages all abolitionists to use the UN Human Rights Day on 10 December to highlight the fight against the death penalty and for a fair trial for Mumia Abu Jamal;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the parliaments of the Member States and the European Council.