



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO END TRADE IN GOODS USED FOR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AND TORTURE

STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. AURELIA FRICK

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests,

Liechtenstein wishes to express its deep gratitude to Argentina, the European Union and Mongolia for their dedicated leadership in launching this initiative. We welcome the joint declaration to establish the Global Alliance to end trade in goods used for capital punishment and torture. Our collective commitment to end capital punishment, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment has been consistent and long-standing. It is indeed only States themselves who can abolish capital punishment. But there is an important role for the rest of us: We can continue our advocacy to make sure that these practices are no longer carried out and contribute to this end. It is good to see that so many States, civil society organizations and representatives of the business community come together to achieve this common goal. We are gratified to see that more and more States have come to recognize that capital punishment is immoral as well as a violation of fundamental human rights and have chosen the road of abolition. Unfortunately, a number of States still use these inhumane methods – and the tools accompanying them.

Liechtenstein opposes the use of capital punishment and torture in all circumstances. We compliment States and organizations, particularly the European Union and its Member States, for enforcing legislation that restricts and prohibits the export and import of goods used for capital punishment and torture. We also applaud companies who have taken the necessary steps to prevent States maintaining capital punishment from purchasing drugs for lethal injections. We hope that more businesses will follow suit.

The Global Alliance and its political declaration are an important step towards the abolition of torture and capital punishment. Liechtenstein is committed to ending the trade of tools for torture and capital punishment and delighted to join the Global Alliance today. We look forward to working with like-minded States and organizations to achieve its goals.

I thank you.