

Press Release

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Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis condemns the executions carried out in Japan

Strasbourg, 01.02.2008 - "Japan, which is an observer country to the Council of Europe, has announced that three people have been hanged this week. In accordance with its established practice, the relatives have only been told after the hangings have taken place. This is appalling. There are no civilised ways to execute a human being, but there are varying degrees of inhumanity. The Japanese procedure is as inhuman as it gets.

It is also sad that the Japanese authorities hide behind public opinion in order to continue with this barbaric and cruel form of punishment. They should have the courage and the honesty to explain to the public that the death penalty is not only immoral and unjust, but also does not deter murderers."

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