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PACE 170 (2013)

PACE President calls on US, Japan and Belarus to abolish the death penalty

Strasbourg, 10.10.2013 – "I am concerned to see that the number of executions remains high in the United States and has even increased in Japan during the last year, whilst – at global level – more and more states are in the process of abolishing the death penalty," said Jean-Claude Mignon, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), speaking today on the World Day Against the Death Penalty (10 October). "They are going against the tide of history."

"Once again, I appeal to these two countries, as Council of Europe observer states – as well as Belarus, which aspires to become a member – to join the emerging consensus among democratic countries which protect human rights and dignity, by abolishing the death penalty."



The Assembly brings together 318 members from the national parliaments of the 47 member states. President:Jean-Claude Mignon (EPP/CD) - Secretary General of the Assembly: Wojciech Sawicki. Political groups: SOC (Socialist Group); EPP/CD (Group of the European People's Party); EDG (European Democrat Group); ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe); UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).