

United Nations.
Human Rights Council.
Biennial High-Level Panel on the death penalty
1st of March 2017

Dear Human beings,
Mister Vice-President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Webcasters,
Good afternoon,

The Center for Global Nonkilling was founded in 2008, by late Professor Glenn Page. Please let me briefly honour his memory, as he peacefully past last month. He was a Korean-war veteran and thereafter, he turned his whole life towards the protection and the enhancement of life. We are a worldwide congregation of scholars working for the respect and the betterment of life. I am honoured to follow his footsteps.

Life is the greatest gift we receive, individually as collectively, from the Universe or the Creator. We all need to give meaning, worth and gratitude, value to the gift of life.

Since last biennial panel, humanity has given itself a plan for the future of life: the Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 16, target 1 is, I quote, to “Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere”. This includes the replacement of the death penalty and of all subsequent inhumane treatments by a duty to care, by a virtuous circle dedicated to life and its qualities.

The right to life is also the reciprocal duty not to kill. A duty not to kill vested in each and every one of us, but also in all our institutions.

We do expect States to be good examples of the full respect of the rights to life and security.

Mister Vice-President, Ladies and gentlemen, in a world where people will be made more happy and satisfied with their lives, States and people will have less reasons or incentives to take human life. Life will be fulfilled and respected, for all by all, in a way enabling us to give more respect to the planet we all live on and to the future and dignity of humanity.

May we all live long and happy lives!
Thank you for all progresses made and for your full attention.

“From the politics of taking life to the politics of affirming it”