



**TREATY SERIES 1994  
N° 22**

**Protocol N° 6 to the Convention for the Protection of  
Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms concerning  
the abolition of the death penalty**

**Done at Strasbourg on 28 April 1983**

**Signed on behalf of Ireland on 24 June 1994**

**Ireland's Instrument of Ratification deposited with the  
Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 24 June 1994**

**Entered into force with respect to Ireland  
on 1 July 1994**

**Presented to Dáil Éireann by the Minister for Foreign Affairs**

**PROTOCOL N° 6 TO THE CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS CONCERNING  
THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY**

The member States of the Council of Europe, signatory to this Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed at Rome on 4 November 1950\* (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”),

*Considering* that the evolution that has occurred in several member States of the Council of Europe expresses a general tendency in favour of abolition of the death penalty,

**HAVE AGREED** as follows:

**Article 1**

The death penalty shall be abolished. No-one shall be condemned to such penalty or executed.

**Article 2**

A State may make provision in its law for the death penalty in respect of acts committed in time of war or of imminent threat of war; such penalty shall be applied only in the instances laid down in the law and in accordance with its provisions. The State shall communicate to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe the relevant provisions of that law.

**Article 3**

No derogation from the provisions of this Protocol shall be made under Article 15 of the Convention.

**Article 4**

No reservation may be made under Article 64 of the Convention in respect of the provisions of this Protocol.

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\* Irish Treaty Series N° 12 of 1953

## Article 5

1. Any State may at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, specify the territory or territories to which this Protocol shall apply.
2. Any State may at any later date, by a declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, extend the application of this Protocol to any other territory specified in the declaration. In respect of such territory the Protocol shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date of receipt of such declaration by the Secretary General.
3. Any declaration made under the two preceding paragraphs may, in respect of any territory specified in such declaration, be withdrawn by a notification addressed to the Secretary General. The withdrawal shall become effective on the first day of the month following the date of receipt of such notification by the Secretary General.

## Article 6

As between the States Parties the provisions of Articles 1 to 5 of this Protocol shall be regarded as additional articles to the Convention and all the provisions of the Convention shall apply accordingly.

## Article 7

The Protocol shall be open for signature by the member States of the Council of Europe, signatories to the Convention. It shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. A member State of the Council of Europe may not ratify, accept or approve this Protocol unless it has, simultaneously or previously, ratified the Convention. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

## Article 8

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date on which five member States of the Council of Europe have expressed their consent to be bound by the Protocol in accordance with the provisions of Article 7.
2. In respect of any member State which subsequently expresses its consent to be bound by it, the Protocol shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

## Article 9

The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall notify the member States of the Council of:

- a. any signature;
- b. the deposit of any instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval;
- c. any date of entry into force of this Protocol in accordance with Articles 5 and 8;
- d. any other act, notification or communication relating to this Protocol.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Protocol.

**DONE** at Strasbourg, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 1983, in English and in French, both texts being equally authentic, in a single copy which shall be deposited in the archives of the Council of Europe. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit certified copies to each member State of the Council of Europe.