



Federated States of Micronesia
Joint Stakeholder Report for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review:
The Death Penalty

Submitted by The Advocates for Human Rights
a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with ECOSOC since 1996
and
The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

for the 51st Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
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The Advocates for Human Rights (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based nongovernmental organization committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law. Established in 1983, The Advocates conducts a range of programs to promote human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publications. In 1991, The Advocates adopted a formal commitment to oppose the death penalty worldwide and organized a death penalty project to provide pro bono assistance on post-conviction appeals, as well as education and advocacy to end capital punishment. The Advocates currently holds a seat on the Steering Committee of the World Coalition against the Death Penalty.

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP), an alliance of more than 150 NGOs, bar associations, local authorities, and unions, was created in Rome on 13 May 2002. The aim of the World Coalition is to strengthen the international dimension of the fight against the death penalty. Its ultimate objective is to obtain the universal abolition of the death penalty. To achieve its goal, the World Coalition advocates for a definitive end to death sentences and executions in those countries where the death penalty is in force. In some countries, it is seeking to obtain a reduction in the use of capital punishment as a first step towards abolition.

1. Section 9 of the Declaration of Rights in the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia prohibits capital punishment.¹ Despite assurances during its third-cycle Universal Periodic Review, the Federated States of Micronesia has neither signed nor ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Scope of international obligations; Acceptance of international norms; Death penalty

Status of Implementation: Partially accepted, Not implemented

2. In its third-cycle Universal Periodic Review, the Federated States of Micronesia accepted five recommendations to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and in so doing requested support from the recommending states—Finland, France, Honduras, Latvia, and Spain—with the ratification process.² The Federated States of Micronesia noted Germany’s recommendation to “[r]atify major human rights covenants”—including the Second Optional Protocol—”and accede to the Rome Statute.”³
3. Since 2021, the Federated States of Micronesia has not taken any steps toward ratification of OP2. Nonetheless, the Federated States of Micronesia has consistently voted in favor of the UN General Assembly resolution calling for a global moratorium on the death penalty, including most recently in 2024.⁴
4. **Suggested recommendations:**
 - **Take all necessary steps to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, without reservations.**
 - **Request that the Friends of the Second Optional Protocol provide any needed technical assistance with the ratification process.**

¹ Constitution of Federated States of Micronesia, Art. IV, Section 9 (1978) (“Capital punishment is prohibited.”).

² Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Federated States of Micronesia*, (26 Mar. 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/4*, ¶ 86.3 (“Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Spain)”), .7 (“Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Finland)”), .8 (“Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Second Optional Protocol thereto, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty . . . (France)”), .10 (“Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol . . . (Latvia)”), .22 (“Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols (Honduras)”; Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Federated States of Micronesia, Addendum*, (14 June 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/4/Add.1, at 2.

³ Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Federated States of Micronesia*, (26 Mar. 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/4*, ¶ 86.9; Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Federated States of Micronesia, Addendum*, (14 June 2021), U.N. Doc. A/HRC/47/4/Add.1, at 2.

⁴ International Commission Against the Death Penalty, *UNGA Moratorium Resolution Table*, <https://icomdp.org/map-unga/> (last visited 12 July 2025).