

Tokyo declaration 1976

In recent years, we have become aware of the increasing concern to the individual over his right to die with dignity, or euthanasia. We believe in the rights and freedom of all men. This brings us to affirm this right to die with dignity, which means in peace and without suffering.

Death is unavoidable. But we believe that the manner (and time) of dying should be left to the decision of the individual, assuming such demands do not result in harm to society other than the sadness associated with death.

The Declaration of a person's wishes, or the "Living Will", should be respected by all concerned as an expression of intrinsic human rights. Therefore, at least for the present, we request that this Declaration, or the "Living Will", be made legally effective, and pursuant to this, efforts toward its legalization should be made.

Through the Tokyo International Conference on Euthanasia, or Death with Dignity, the national movements of each country can achieve international cooperation, as well as solidarity. Let us promise ourselves to strive to achieve the above objectives, through the establishment of a liaison centre whose purpose will be an exchange of information, as well as the convening of periodically held international conferences.

WF MANIFESTO

I support the World Federation of Right to Die Societies (an international non-governmental organization) which strongly believes that all competent adults - regardless of their nationalities, professions, religious beliefs, and ethical and political views- who are suffering unbearably from incurable illnesses should have the possibility of various choices (including assisted suicide and euthanasia) in the manner of their dying when this is their voluntarily expressed will, once they are fully informed of their diagnosis, prognosis and available means of relief.