



TO: Global Outreach supporters

FROM: Scott Fischbach
Executive Director

RE: Argentina becomes latest country to ratify treaty protecting older persons

DATE: October 23, 2017

Today, Argentina became the latest country to ratify the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons. We commend Argentina for this action.

The treaty aims to protect the dignity and health of older persons. It does not include any right to euthanasia or assisted suicide, or a “right to die.” On the contrary, the treaty instructs States Parties to “adopt all measures necessary to ensure older persons’ effective enjoyment of the right of life and the right to live with dignity in old age until the end of their life and on an equal basis with other segments of the population.”

The Convention also affirms that older persons “have the right to a life without any kind of violence or mistreatment. For the purposes of this Convention, violence against older persons shall be understood as any act or conduct that causes death or ... harm or suffering, either in the public or the private sphere.”

In addition to Argentina, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Bolivia, and Chile have ratified the Convention. Nevertheless, two nations in the Americas, Canada and Colombia, have recently legalized euthanasia. This is a violation of the human rights of older persons, whose rights to life and health must be safeguarded.

MCCL GO encourages all nations to provide the best care possible for older persons—and to protect them from the abuses and dangers of euthanasia.

MCCL GO is a pro-life NGO global outreach program of the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Education Fund. Learn more at www.mccl-go.org.

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