



## The Center for Victims of Torture Sample Resolution Against Torture

---

### Sample Resolution

Whereas the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits “cruel and unusual punishments” and torture is prohibited by law throughout the United States without exception;

Whereas the prohibition against torture in international agreements is absolute and unqualified under all circumstance, even during a state of war or national security;

Therefore be it resolved that the \_\_\_\_\_ Party publicly denounces and opposes any and all uses of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

Demands from all appropriate government bodies, including the Department of Justice and the Department of Defense, the full enforcement of United States laws that make torture illegal;

Demands that the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture\* have access to all detention facilities and detainees held in U.S. facilities anywhere in the world, including the right to talk to prisoners directly, as a way to prevent torture;

Rejects the practice of “extraordinary rendition” at home and abroad by which some detainees are sent for interrogation to countries that practice torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment;

And demands as full a rehabilitation as possible for victims of torture the U.S. is responsible for creating, as called for by the UN Convention Against Torture.

*\* United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture is a voluntary position appointed by the High Commission for Human Rights to investigate allegations of torture. The U.S. government was a major proponent of the use of experts within the UN. The US has pressured other countries to allow the Special Rapporteur access to prisons and prisoners as a way to prevent torture, but has itself refused access to detainees in US facilities such as Guantanamo.*