

## THE BALTIC ASSEMBLY

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### RESOLUTION

#### **on the Abolishment of Death Penalty**

The Baltic Assembly,

**recognising** a person's right to life as the most important human right,

**highly estimating** the contribution of the Council of Europe to guaranteeing human rights,

**considering** the universal and prompt integration into European and international structures one of the main priorities in the development of the three Baltic States,

**recommends** the parliaments and governments of the three Baltic States to prepare for the ratification of Protocol No. 6 to the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and

**is aware that** the following preconditions inevitable for the adoption of such resolution:

- considerable decline in the crime rate as compared to the present state, especially with respect to grievous crimes against the person;
- the introduction of life imprisonment into the legal acts which at present allow to impose the death penalty;
- essential reorganisation and reform of the prison system by bringing it into line with standards accepted in Europe and creating possibilities for separate detention of persons having committed criminal offences of different degrees.

Pärnu, April 27, 1997