

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE REFERENDUM ON THE LEGALISATION OF EUTHANASIA IN ITALY

As representatives of the World Federation of Right to Die Societies, we express our support to the referendum initiative aimed at partially repealing Article 579 of the Italian Penal Code, thus paving the way for the legalisation of euthanasia in Italy.

We are anxiously awaiting the forthcoming decision of the Italian Constitutional Court on the admissibility of the referendum question, which could mark a historic moment for the dignity of Italian citizens and a signal of international significance. In fact, Italy could become the first major country in the world to introduce a law on assisted dying through a referendum, thanks to the democratic participation of many citizens who have signed the proposal.

We are confident that the Italian Constitutional Court will rule positively on the admissibility of a referendum that fully embraces the fundamental principle of self-determination already contained in various laws of EU member states and in the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights.

We look forward to the outcomes of the Congress of the EUMANS movement in Warsaw to discuss new initiatives on end-of-life decisions guaranteeing dignity and freedom to all citizens of the world.

Asunción Alvarez, President

Rob Jonquiere, Executive Director