



Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Washington

**EU 2007 DE**

Washington, May 01, 2007

**Klaus Scharioth**

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany

The Honorable  
Janet Napolitano  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor,

**CASE OF MR. ROBERT CHARLES COMER**

The European Union has learned that Mr. Robert Charles Comer is to be executed in the State of Arizona on 22 May 2007. On behalf of the European Union, Germany as current President, together with Portugal, the subsequent President, and the European Commission would like to make an urgent humanitarian appeal to spare the life of Mr. Robert Charles Comer.

The European Union opposes the death penalty in all cases and accordingly aims at its universal abolition, seeking a global moratorium on the death penalty as a first step.

The European Union considers that in countries which have not yet abolished the death penalty, this punishment should not be imposed when a de facto moratorium has been in place for an extended period. The execution of Mr. Comer would break the established de facto moratorium in the State of Arizona, where the last execution was carried out on 8 November 2000.

We therefore respectfully urge you, Governor, to take these factors into account and to exercise all the powers vested in your office to grant Mr. Comer relief from the death penalty.

Sincerely,

Klaus Scharioth  
Ambassador of Germany

Joao de Vallera  
Ambassador of Portugal

John Bruton  
Ambassador of the Delegation  
of the European Commission