



Briefing Notes Summary

Group 62 – Information Centre for Asylum and Migration

Vietnam – January to June 2025

30 June 2025

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Death penalty abolished for eight crimes

On 25.06.25, Vietnam's parliament unanimously ratified amendments to the criminal code which, according to official sources, end capital punishment for the following crimes: embezzlement, espionage, attempts to overthrow the government, sabotage of state infrastructure, counterfeiting medicines, transporting illegal drugs, accepting bribes, and initiating wars of aggression. The amendments to the criminal code are to come into force in July 2025. Life imprisonment will be the maximum penalty for these crimes from that time on. Ten crimes will also continue to be punished with the death penalty, including murder, treason, terrorism, drug trafficking, as well as sexual abuse of children.¹

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¹ New York Times, Vietnam Abolishes Death Penalty for Embezzlement and Other Crimes, last update 25.06.2025; CNN, Vietnam to Remove Death Penalty for Embezzlement, Sparing Tycoon's Life, last update 25.06.2025; France24, Vietnam Abolishes Death Penalty for Spying, Anti-State Activities, last update 25.06.2025.

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