

ERGÄNZENDE STELLUNGNAHME VON

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL,  
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT, HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS TEAM

### **Psychiatry and Human Rights**

AI believes that mental illness exists, should be treated where necessary and with consent if possible, though without consent if in the best interests of the seriously ill patient and within a legal framework subject to appeal. It opposes incarceration in mental hospitals on non-medical or insufficient medical grounds and the cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of patients (please see the UN Conventions, Principles and Declarations for current standards, including, for example, Principles for the Protection of Persons with Mental Illness and the Improvement of Mental Health Care and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights). The right to health implies that the person with mental illness has access to competent and ethical psychiatric care.