
US Death Penalty Ruling on Monday Fails to Address Wrongful Convictions - Advocacy Group

WASHINGTON, June 29 (Sputnik) - The US Supreme Court's approval of lethal injection as a humane means of execution does not account for the many wrongful executions and convictions of innocent Americans, US advocacy group Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty coordinator Marc Hyden said in a statement on Monday. "Along with the botched executions, we can't forget that more than 150 people have been freed from death rows due to wrongful convictions," Hyden said. On Monday, the US Supreme Court ruled against limiting the use of the controversial drug midazolam during executions, saying it does not violate the 8th amendment of the US constitution that prohibits cruel or unusual punishments. "The court's ruling doesn't change the fact that the death penalty is a failed policy marked by grievous errors," Hyden stressed. The coordinator said the advocacy group will continue to fight the "costly, unchecked" government power to execute final punishment. According to Proceedings of the National Academy of Science data released in April, 144 death sentenced defendants have received exoneration while at least 340 people have been put to death unjustly between 1973 and 2004. The study examined data on 7,482 defendants. Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty is a political and social network seeking to abolish capital punishment in the United States, according to the organization's website.