

# URGENT ACTION

## CALLER 'WILL KILL' MISSING MAN'S MOTHER

**An anonymous caller has threatened to kill a woman searching for her son, who was subjected to enforced disappearance in 2014. Her life may be in danger.**

**Claudia Mabel Palacios**, whose son was subjected to enforced disappearance in 2014, was called on 25 June on her mobile phone by a man who told her that she had eight days to leave the area where she lives, in south-western Colombia, that "they did not want to see her there anymore" (*no querían verla más allí*) and that she should stop looking for her son if she did not want to suffer a tragedy worse than what had befallen her son.

Claudia Mabel Palacios is part of a group of families of people who have been subjected to enforced disappearance in the department of Valle del Cauca. Her son, 19-year-old Hafith Ríos Palacios, is thought to have been abducted in March 2014 by paramilitaries operating in the El Palmar area of Dagua Municipality, where she lives. She received the threatening phone call a few days after she visited the area of El Palmar where it is thought that her son could be buried. This may indicate that those responsible for his enforced disappearance are still in, or in control of, the area.

### Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

- Expressing concern for the safety of Claudia Mabel Palacios and her family;
- Calling on the authorities to order full and impartial investigations into the 25 June threatening phone call, and take all necessary measures she and her family deem appropriate to guarantee their safety;
- Calling on them to recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications on this and other cases from or on behalf of victims or other states parties to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;
- Asking them to ensure that the National Commission for the Search for People Subjected to Enforced Disappearance publishes the results of the implementation of urgent search mechanisms requested by the Office of the Procurator General on 22 January 2015.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 14 AUGUST 2015 TO:

#### President

Juan Manuel Santos  
 Presidente de la República  
 Casa de Nariño  
 Calle 7. No 6-54.  
 Bogotá, Colombia  
 Fax: +57 1 596 0631

**Salutation: Dear President Santos/  
 Excmo. Sr. Presidente Santos**

#### Attorney General

Eduardo Montealegre  
 Fiscalía General de la Nación  
 Diagonal 22B No. 52-01 (Ciudad Salitre)  
 Bloque C Piso 4,  
 Bogotá, Colombia  
 Fax +57 1 570 2000 (when recorded  
 voice answers, dial ext 2023)

**Salutation: Dear Attorney General/  
 Estimado Sr. Fiscal General**

#### **And copies to:**

Human rights organization  
 Fundación Nydia Erika Bautista  
 Carrera No 20 No 35-45  
 Bogotá, Colombia

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:**

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
 INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Impunity has been a hallmark of Colombia's 50-year-old internal armed conflict, and is one of the reasons why human rights violations and abuses have persisted. Very few of those suspected of criminal responsibility for human rights abuses and violations committed during the conflict, including enforced disappearances, have ever been brought to justice. As of 1 June 2015 the state's Unit for Attention and Reparation of Victims (*Unidad para la Atención y Reparación Integral a las Víctimas*, UARIV) had recorded over 45,000 enforced disappearances since 1985.

Relatives of victims of enforced disappearance who have campaigned for justice and sought to discover the whereabouts of their relatives and the human rights NGOs that help them have been repeatedly threatened with death and other serious human rights violations by paramilitaries and members of the security forces involved in the enforced disappearances.

Name: Claudia Mabel Palacios

Gender m/f: f.

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