

**I ADD MY VOTE TO THE CALL FOR
AN END TO IMPUNITY FOR SEXUAL
VIOLENCE IN COLOMBIA'S CONFLICT**

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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Women and girls have been targeted for sexual violence by members of all the warring parties in Colombia's long-running armed conflict. For decades, these crimes – which can amount to war crimes and/or crimes against humanity – have been shrouded in silence. Now, largely thanks to the efforts of Colombian women's and human rights NGOs, this wall of silence is beginning to crack.

The Colombian authorities can and must take decisive action to end sexual violence and impunity for such crimes. They must support legislation to tackle impunity for conflict-related sexual violence against women and girls. They should make sure that judicial officials have the training and resources they need to investigate and prosecute these crimes effectively. They must ensure that members of the security forces who commit these crimes are dealt with in the civilian courts and not in the military justice system.

Colombia has an obligation to end these human rights abuses and to ensure the human rights of women and girls. If it fails to address impunity for these crimes, then the International Criminal Court may step in.

TAKE ACTION NOW

PLEASE SIGN AND SEND THESE POSTCARDS

Image: Members of a support group for survivors of sexual violence create a circle with their hands, March 2011, Bogotá, Colombia. © Corporación Sisma Mujer
Index: AMR 23/034/2012



**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Dear President Santos,

We call on you and your government to support legislation to tackle the impunity that allows conflict-related sexual violence against women and girls to continue. Such legislation must ensure that those suspected of criminal responsibility are brought to justice for war crimes and/or crimes against humanity, where there is sufficient admissible evidence; that judicial officials have the necessary training and resources to investigate and prosecute these crimes effectively; that members of the security forces implicated in sexual violence are dealt with in civilian courts; and that action is taken to protect women campaigning for justice in these cases.

Colombia has an obligation to end these human rights abuses and to ensure the human rights of women and girls. If it fails to address impunity for these crimes, then the International Criminal Court may step in.

The time for action is now.
Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Country: _____

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**President of the Republic of Colombia
Dr. Juan Manuel Santos Calderón
Casa de Nariño
Carrera 8 No.7-26
Bogotá,
Colombia**

Image: Members of a support group for survivors of sexual violence create a circle with their hands, March 2011, Bogotá, Colombia. © Corporación Sisma Mujer
Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom. www.amnesty.org

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Dear friends,

I have written to the Colombian President and Congress calling on them to take decisive action to end conflict-related sexual violence against women and girls. I am writing to you to express my support for your campaign to bring these human rights violations to light and to ensure justice for women and girls.

Amnesty International believes it is essential to support legislation to tackle the impunity for conflict-related sexual violence. Making sure that those responsible for such crimes are brought to justice and that they know they will be investigated and prosecuted are a crucial part of ending violence against women and girls.

Amnesty International is also approaching other governments and parliamentarians in different countries to send a decisive message to the Colombian authorities to take action to end these crimes under international law.

Yours faithfully,

Name: _____

Country: _____

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Dear Mr Barreras,

We call on you and the government to support legislation to tackle the impunity that allows conflict-related sexual violence against women and girls to continue. Such legislation must ensure that those suspected of criminal responsibility are brought to justice for war crimes and/or crimes against humanity, where there is sufficient admissible evidence; that judicial officials have the necessary training and resources to investigate and prosecute these crimes effectively; that members of the security forces implicated in sexual violence are dealt with in ordinary civilian courts; and that action is taken to protect women campaigning for justice in these cases.

Colombia has an obligation to end these human rights abuses and to ensure the human rights of women and girls. If it fails to address impunity for these crimes, then the International Criminal Court may step in.

The time for action is now.
Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Country: _____

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**Colombian Women's NGOs
c/o Colombia Research Team
Amnesty International
International Secretariat
Peter Benenson House
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 0DW
United Kingdom**

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Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom. www.amnesty.org

**President of the Colombian Congress
Roy Barreras Montealegre
Capitolio Nacional
Carrera 7 No. 8 - 68
Bogotá
Colombia**

Image: Members of a support group for survivors of sexual violence create a circle with their hands, March 2011, Bogotá, Colombia. © Corporación Sisma Mujer
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