

# URGENT ACTION

## HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER THREATENED

**A Honduran lawyer working for local human rights organization, Association for a More Just Society (Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa – ASJ) has received threats by text message. Her safety is at risk. This is the second time an employee of the organisation has been targeted for its work against impunity.**

On 31 January the lawyer, who has asked not to be named, received a text message sent anonymously via the internet. It was addressed to her by name and said “Stop putting your nose where you shouldn’t” (“...dege de estar metiendo sus narices donde no deve”). A subsequent part of the message referred to a previous threat against another member of the ASJ in October who was abducted and threatened with death by unknown men, who asked her repeatedly about her work with the organization.

Amnesty International believes both incidents are closely related to the work that the ASJ has carried out to promote human rights and the fight against impunity in Honduras. The organization already benefits from increased protection, after Amnesty International’s Urgent Action in October. However, there has been no progress in the investigation of previous incidents, and threats against ASJ lawyers continue. Those responsible for the abduction and threats remain unknown and at large. The lawyer, as well as other members of the ASJ, remain at risk.

### PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Spanish or your own language:

- Calling for an independent, thorough and impartial investigation into the incident and the threats against the ASJ lawyer, with the results made public and those responsible brought to justice;
- Calling on the authorities to fully investigate the incidents against the ASJ and end impunity for attacks against human rights defenders;
- Reminding the authorities that human rights defenders have a right to carry out their activities without any unfair restrictions or fear of reprisals, as set out in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 18 MARCH 2011 TO:

#### Minister for Justice and Human Rights

Ana Pineda  
Ministra de Justicia y Derechos  
Humanos  
Casa Presidencial  
Boulevard Juan Pablo Segundo  
Palacio José Cecilio del Valle  
Tegucigalpa, M.D.C.  
Honduras  
Fax: +504 2290 5129

**Salutation: Estimada Sra. Ministra**

#### Attorney General

Sr. Luis Alberto Rubí  
Fiscal General de la República  
Lomas del Guijarro, Avenida República  
Dominicana  
Edificio Lomas Plaza II  
Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Fax: + 504 2221 5667

**Salutation: Dear Attorney General/**

**Estimado Sr.Fiscal**

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

Asociación para una Sociedad más  
Justa (ASJ)  
Apartado 30676  
Tegucigalpa,  
Honduras

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.** Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the first update of UA 228/10. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR37/015/2010/en>

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Another lawyer working for the ASJ was abducted by two unknown men in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, on 19 October. During her 40-minute ordeal she was threatened with death. To date, the authorities have not brought those responsible to justice.

ASJ lawyer Dionisio Díaz García, was shot dead on 4 December 2006 by a man riding pillion on a motorbike. Dionisio García had been representing a number of former security guards who claimed to have been unfairly dismissed at the time he was killed. Amnesty International issued various Urgent Actions on this case in December 2006, highlighting the threats suffered by other ASJ members after the killing of Dionisio García. The ASJ was issued with protection measures by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in 2007 following Dionisio García's killing.

The investigation and trials on Dionisio García's case were carried out from 2007 to 2009 and resulted in the sentencing of a former security guard, who had worked for SETECH, and a police officer for his killing.

FU UA: 228/10 Index: AMR 37/003/2011 Issue Date: 4 February 2011

