

Media Advisory

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Guatemala: Invitation to press conference

Amnesty International invites journalists to the launch of the report: "The lethal legacy of impunity in Guatemala: the impunity of the past and the new human rights violations".

This report, that will be launched from Madrid to international media, examines the inappropriate functioning of the Guatemalan judicial system, its reflection on the worsening of the human rights situation and the interference of what is known as the "Corporative Mafia state" in the judicial process.

It is estimated that 200,000 individuals "disappeared" during the civil conflict in Guatemala. The majority of these crimes remain unpunished.

The press conference will take place on Thursday 28th February at 11:00am local time (12:00GMT) in the Sociedad General de Autores y Editores (SGAE), C/Fernando VI esauina Pelayo (Madrid).

The speakers are:

Tracy Ulltveit-Moe, Amnesty International's researcher on Guatemala.
Denise Becker, survivor of the 1982 Rio Negro massacre about whom Amnesty International produced a television documentary.
Celvin Galindom, attorney in charge of the case of the murder of Monseigneur Gerardi, who had to flee Spain because of threats he has received since February 2001.

ATTENTION BROADCASTERS: A 28 minute video telling the story of Denese Becker will be available for broadcasters. The images of this video (on Betacam SP) can also be used as supplementary footage.

For more information, please contact Celia Zafra on telephone number +34 91 310 12 77 ext. 25 or on +34 630 746 802 for Spanish media, or Simona Beltrami on telephone number +44 77 78 472 116 for international media.

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