

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 161/99 (AMR 25/41/99, 12 November 1999) and follow-ups (AMR 25/42/99, 19 November 1999; AMR 25/43/99, 2 December 1999; AMR 25/05/00, 23 February 2000) - Prisoner of conscience / Arbitrary arrests

CUBADr. Oscar Elías BISCET GONZÁLEZ, human rights activist, prisoner of conscience

Fermin SCULL ZULUETA, possible prisoner of conscience

Eduardo DÍAZ FLEITAS, possible prisoner of conscience

Dr. Oscar Elías Biscet González has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment. Amnesty International is calling for his immediate and unconditional release as a prisoner of conscience.

On 25 February 2000 he was found guilty of "ultraje a los símbolos de la patria", "insult to the symbols of the homeland", "desordenes públicos", "public disorder", and "instigación a delinquir", "incitement to commit a crime". Oscar Biscet, President of the *Fundación Lawton de Derechos Humanos*, Lawton Foundation for Human Rights, had been arrested on 3 November 1999.

Of the two other dissidents tried by the same court on the same day, Fermin Scull Zulueta was sentenced to one year's imprisonment for "public disorder". Eduardo Díaz Fleitas, vice-president of the illegal *Movimiento 5 de agosto*, 5 August Movement, was sentenced to one year's "restricted liberty", "limitación de libertad". Both men were arrested at a demonstration in Havana on 10 November 1999.

According to Cuban government statements, both men have previous convictions. However, Amnesty International has not been able to obtain information on the exact charges on which they were previously convicted and is investigating their cases to determine whether they are prisoners of conscience.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Spanish or your own language:**

- asking for the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Oscar Elías Biscet González, on the grounds that he is a prisoner of conscience detained solely for peacefully attempting to exercise his right to freedom of expression, association and assembly.

**APPEALS TO:**

Attorney-General

Dr Juan Escalona Reguera  
Fiscal General de la República  
Fiscalía General de la República  
San Rafael 3, La Habana, Cuba

**Telexes: 511456 fisge**

**Faxes:+ 53 7 66 94 85**

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

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sr. Felipe Pérez Roque  
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Calzada No. 360, Vedado, La Habana, Cuba  
**Telexes:** 511122 / 511464 / 512950  
**Faxes:** + 53 7 33 3085 / 33 3460  
**Salutation:** Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

Minister of the Interior  
General Abelardo Colomé Ibarra  
Ministro de Interior  
Ministerio del Interior  
Plaza de la Revolución, La Habana, Cuba  
**Faxes:** + 53 7 335261  
**Salutation:** Señor Ministro / Dear Minister

**COPIES TO:**

National Union of Jurists  
Unión Nacional de Juristas  
Apartado 4161  
La Habana 4, Cuba

Editor of Granma (daily newspaper)  
Sr Jacinto Granda de Laserna  
Granma, Apdo 6260, La Habana, Cuba

and to diplomatic representatives of Cuba accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 March 2000.