

# URGENT ACTION

## DISAPPEARED ACTIVISTS' FAMILIES AT RISK

**The families of two missing environmental activists in Guerrero state, Mexico, have reported being threatened and followed after making a complaint about the activists' enforced disappearance. They and other relatives are in danger.**

On 7 December 2011, **Eva Alarcón** and **Marcial Bautista** of the Organization of Peasant Environmentalists of the Sierra de Petatlan (Organización de Campesinos Ecologistas de la Sierra de Petatlán y Coyuca de Catalán, OCESP) were abducted by armed men from a coach travelling to Mexico City from their homes in Guerrero state. There has been no news of their whereabouts since then, although witnesses have identified police officers as being among the abductors. On 28 December, the chief of the judicial police in Tecpán de Galena, the area of Guerrero state where the activists were abducted, was arrested in relation to the enforced disappearance. The police chief has not been charged, but he remains in administrative detention pending further investigations by the organized crime unit of Federal Attorney General's Office (Procuraduría General de la República).

**Victoria Bautista Bueno** and **Coral Rojas Alarcón**, the adult daughters of the missing activists, filed a complaint with both the federal and Guerrero state Attorney General's offices, calling on them to investigate the enforced disappearance. On 20 December, Victoria Bautista Bueno and Coral Rojas Alarcón received telephone calls, in which an anonymous caller warned them not to get involved further in the case. Both daughters have since reported being followed on various occasions. The federal authorities have provided some protection to the families of the missing activists, but it has not been consistent.

There has been no further progress in the investigation into the death of activist **Trinidad de la Cruz Crisóforo**, whose body was found on 7 December. He had been shot and there were signs that he had been tortured.

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

- Calling on the authorities to guarantee the safety of Victoria Bautista Bueno and Coral Rojas Alarcón, and ensure they are provided with effective protection and all threats and harassment investigated;
- Calling for the whereabouts of Eva Alarcón and Marcial Bautista to be established and their safety ensured;
- Calling for a full, impartial and prompt investigation into the abduction and killing of Trinidad de la Cruz Crisóforo in Santa María Ostula;
- Calling for any public officials found to be responsible for enforced disappearances to be held to account for their crimes, as set out in Mexican law.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 5 MARCH 2012 TO:

#### Governor of Guerrero state

Lic. Ángel Heladio Aguirre Rivero  
 Gobernador del Estado de Guerrero  
 Palacio de Gobierno Edificio Centro 2do.  
 Piso, Col. Ciudad de los Servicios  
 C.P. 39074 Chilpancingo  
 Guerrero, México  
 Fax: +52 747 471 9956  
 Email: [contacto@guerrero.gob.mx](mailto:contacto@guerrero.gob.mx)

#### **Salutation: Dear Governor**

Attorney General of the Republic  
 Marisela Morales Ibáñez  
 Av. Paseo de la reforma 211-213  
 Col. Cuauhtémoc,  
 Del. Cuauhtémoc  
 México D.F., C.P. 06500, México  
 Fax: +52 55 5346 0908 (keep trying and ask for "fax")

Email: [mmoralesi@pgr.gob.mx](mailto:mmoralesi@pgr.gob.mx)

#### **Salutation: Dear Attorney General**

National Human Rights Commission  
 Comisión Nacional de los Derechos  
 Humanos de México  
 Email: [correo@cndh.org.mx](mailto:correo@cndh.org.mx)

**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 351/11. Further information: [www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR41/084/2011/en](http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR41/084/2011/en)

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## MISSING ACTIVISTS' FAMILIES AT RISK

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On 7 December, Eva Alarcón and Marcial Bautista of the Organization of Peasant Environmentalists of the Sierra de Petatlan (Organización de Campesinos Ecológicos de la Sierra de Petatlán y Coyuca de Catalán, OCESP) were abducted from a coach travelling to Mexico City from their homes in Guerrero state. Armed men boarded the bus and identified the two by name, then forced them off the bus at gun point. The authorities have initiated an investigation, but their whereabouts remain unknown. Eva Alarcón and Marcial Bautista were supporters of the Movement for Peace with Justice and Dignity (Movimiento por la Paz con Justicia y Dignidad, MPJD). They were on their way to Mexico City to take part in meetings with other MPJD activists.

In a separate incident on 6 December, 12 MPJD activists from Mexico City visited the Nahuatl Indigenous community of Santa María Ostula in Michoacán state to observe community measures to resolve a land conflict which has left more than 27 people dead since 2009. According to reports, armed men ambushed the activists and abducted 73 year-old community leader from Santa Maria Ostula and MPJD supporter, Trinidad de la Cruz Crisóforo. On 7 December, his body was found. He had been shot and apparently subjected to torture. The ambush took place shortly after a Federal Police officer who was providing protection to the group left the group. MPJD is reviewing its security measures.

The Movement for Peace with Justice and Dignity was founded by the poet Javier Sicilia whose son was killed by criminal gang. He has led a national campaign to end violence, human rights violations and impunity that have become endemic in many parts of Mexico. Many victims of the violence and human rights violations have joined the movement.

Activists may send copies of appeals on this case to the Mexican NGO, the Centro de Derechos Humanos de la Montaña "Tlachinollan", (email: [cdhm@tlachinollan.org](mailto:cdhm@tlachinollan.org)), with whom Amnesty International is liaising on this case.

Name: Eva Alarcón; Marcial Bautista, Victoria Bautista Bueno, Coral Rojas Alarcón, Trinidad de la Cruz Crisóforo

Gender m/f: Eva Alarcón (f); Marcial Bautista (m), Victoria Bautista Bueno (f), Coral Rojas Alarcón (f), Trinidad de la Cruz Crisóforo (m)

Further information on UA: 351/11 Index: AMR 41/006/2012 Issue Date: 23 January 2012

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