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Human Rights groups to call on European governments to offer humanitarian protection to Guantánamo detainees

On **Monday 10 November**, following the election of a new US administration, five leading international human rights organizations will present a joint call to European Governments to provide humanitarian protection to Guantánamo detainees who cannot be returned to their countries of origin for fear of torture or other serious human rights violations. Governments should agree to accept these men into their countries and ensure they are provided with adequate support.

Amnesty International, Centre for Constitutional Rights, Human Rights Watch, the International Federation for Human Rights and Reprieve will make this announcement after a 2-day closed strategic workshop in Berlin, convened by the NGOs with other international actors active on the issue of humanitarian protection.

In addition to highlighting the primary and ongoing legal responsibility held by the USA to find solutions for these individuals after years of unlawful detention, including providing them with a safe place to live and receive rehabilitation, the groups will urge other governments to work with the new US administration to end their suffering.

Around 50 of the detainees currently held in Guantánamo, who the USA has said it does not intend to charge, cannot lawfully be sent back to their countries of origin because they could face torture and other ill-treatment. They come from countries including China, Russia, Tunisia and Uzbekistan. It is now vital that a safe place is provided for them to get on with lives without the threat of further human rights violations.

Lawyers of some of the men in need of protection will also be present to discuss their stories.

When: Monday 10 November 11:00 - 12.30 (Central European Time).

Where: Tagungszentrum Katholische Akademie, Seminarraum 1, Hannoversche Str. 5b, 10115 Berlin-Mitte

Who: Daniel Gorevan - Counter Terror with Justice Campaign Manager, Amnesty International,

Emi MacClean – Staff Attorney, Guantanamo Global Justice Initiative, Centre for Constitutional Rights

Joanne Mariner, Terrorism & Counterterrorism Program Director, Human Rights Watch

Cori Crider – Staff Attorney, Reprieve

Steve Sady – Chief Deputy Federal Public Defender

To confirm your attendance to the press conference or arrange an interview, please contact:

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