

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Public Statement

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Colombia: Amnesty International statement on the killing of Liliana Gaviria

The killing of Liliana Gaviria Trujillo, sister of former president César Gaviria Trujillo, and of her bodyguard, Fernando Vélez Rengifo, on 27 April 2006, in Dosquebradas, Risaralda Department, raises serious concerns about guarantees of freedom of expression in the run-up to the 28 May presidential elections.

Although the identity of the perpetrators is unknown, Amnesty International has recently expressed concern about the spate of killings of elected officials and others in the run up to the presidential poll, committed by, among others, army-backed paramilitaries and guerrilla forces.

Amnesty International calls on the Colombian authorities to take the necessary measures to investigate the killings and to bring the perpetrators to justice.