



## **GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR INSISTS ON ATTACK THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (IACHR) AND VIOLATE THE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**August, 2013.**

The Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (Redlad) repeatedly warns of the persecution of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) by the Ecuadorian government.

The last General Assembly of the OAS in Guatemala, rejected the proposed weakening of the Inter-American System of Human Rights (ISHR) launched by Ecuador a couple of years ago. Similarly, the government of Rafael Correa launched an initiative to remove powers to the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression which, in its reports, has demonstrated the violation of freedoms of speech and press in Ecuador, the partial closure of media, the manipulation of the judiciary and prosecution of journalists.

During the opening of the XII Summit of the Dawn (July 30, 2013), developed in Guayaquil, the President of the Republic of Ecuador, Rafael Correa questioned the rationality, fairness and arbitrariness of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the agencies that make up the Inter-American Human Rights System (ISHR). This in a context in which, in less than two months, has been announced the start of a process of four lawsuits before the IAHR against the Ecuadorian government for alleged human rights violations. The causes will be filed by the National Union of Educators (UNE), the Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights of Ecuador (CDH), elected by the former prefect of the province of Esmeraldas, Mr. Lucia Sosa (dismissed by a sentence of the Constitutional Court) and by a group of more than 101 police officers recently dismissed from the police institution.

The Ecuador government's actions against the ISHR have tried to disguise with a supposed interest in "improving the system" when the country is experiencing serious setbacks in human rights, rule of law and fundamental freedoms. Direct actions of the government against freedom of expression, the executive control over the others public powers, the courts are used to persecute dissent and persecution of organizations and civil society leaders.



<http://www.redlad.org/>

Recently, the government of Rafael Correa has continued its strategy of limiting fundamental freedoms and entered into force on Executive Decree No. 16 "Regulations for the operation of the unified information system of social and civic organizations" aimed at regulating and controlling the civil society organizations, this violate the right of free association. The decree puts limiting the registration of organizations, CSOs are forced to accept members (forcing them to have within organizations even people opposed / hostile to the institution or people close to the government) provides great discretion and disproportionality by government in the dissolution of CSOs and reporting requirements that may apply and generally contains a regulatory framework contrary to freedom of association, operation and funding of civil society organizations. Executive Order No. 16 is added to the controversy Communications Law and other instruments that have been enacted in order to put limitations on civil liberties.

Importantly, the existence of resources of unconstitutionality presented that indicate that Executive Order No. 16, is a clear violation of several fundamental rights and undermines the prevailing Constitution.

The Permanent Secretariat Redlad, platform more than 520 organizations that advocate for human rights and fundamental freedoms, Official Member of the Civil Society Forum of OAS and Regional Chapter of the World Movement for Democracy (WMD):

- It calls for the democratic governments of the continent to speak out against the persecution of the Ecuadorian government repeatedly against the Inter-American Human Rights System, space defense of human rights and fundamental freedoms which are accessible to citizens and American citizens, activists and advocates when they are in danger.
- Requests the Ecuadorian government to give up in his smear campaign and threats against one of the bastions and historical institutions in the defense of human rights of the people living in Latin America and the Caribbean. Particularly, calls alerting the international community to the recent entry into force of Decree No. 16 and Communications Law which are a new attack of government of Ecuador against freedoms of expression and association.
- Urges Civil Society organizations to express the need of citizenship about the existence of the IAHRC and of the precautionary measures to protect victims against human rights violations.

**Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (RedLad).**



<http://www.redlad.org/>



@redlatcaribe



/Red-Latinoamericana-y-del-Caribe-para-la-Democracia



<http://www.redlad.org/>