



Public Declaration Supporting the Inter American Human Rights System March 20, 2013

On the occasion of the **Forty-Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS)**, which will take place on March 22, 2013, with the objective of approving the recommendations presented by the Permanent Council for the strengthening of the **Inter American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)** and the Inter American Human Rights System, the below signatories express our recognition and support for the protection of human rights within the Inter American system and the IACHR, as one of the main collective achievements of the countries in the hemisphere and for the valuable work that, since its creation in 1959, it has carried out and continues to carry out for the promotion, defense, and protection of human rights in the hemisphere.

During the stage in which many countries in the region had governments with dictators and authoritarian governments, the Commission played a key role in making visible and internationally denouncing violations of human rights. The IACHR constituted an essential element in the transition and strengthening of democracy, combating impunity and setting new issues on national human rights agendas, such as the rights of children, of women, of indigenous communities, of sexual minorities, of persons deprived of liberty, of afro-descendants, of people with disabilities, of defenders of human rights, of migrants, and in general of groups in vulnerable situations.

The IACHR has contributed to the strengthening of democracy through the defense of due process, development of standards of access to justice and promoting freedom of expression, among other essential tasks.

The Commission, together with the Inter American Court of Human Rights, has achieved reparations and justice for thousands of victims of human rights violations. The IACHR significantly contributes to the reflection and proposal of proactive actions to confront the challenges that in terms of human rights persist in our hemisphere.

The member states of the OAS, committed to humanity and justice, created the IACHR with autonomy and independence to protect its functioning from political influences. In



the current democratic era, the autonomy and independence of the Commission constitutes fundamental pillars for the performance of the important role that it complies.

In a most respectful and fervent manner, we call on the member states of the OAS to act on the historic occasion of the **Forty-Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly** to strengthen the Inter American Human Rights System and commit to providing the former as well as the IACHR with the financial resources necessary and indispensable for the protection and defense of human rights in all of the hemisphere.

SIGNATORIES OF THE DECLARATION:

Ex Presidents:

1. Alejandro Toledo Manrique, former President of Perú
2. Carlos Diego Mesa Gisbert, Former President of Bolivia
3. Fernando de la Rúa, former President of Argentina
4. Jaime Paz Zamora, former President of Bolivia
5. Nicolás Ardito Barletta, former President of Panamá
6. Oscar Arias Sánchez, former President of Costa Rica and Nobel Peace Prize Laurate
7. Vicente Fox, former President of México
8. Vinicio Cerezo Arévalo, former President of Guatemala
9. César Gaviria Trujillo, Former President of Colombia
10. Ernesto Samper Pizano, Former President of Colombia
11. Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea, Former President of Ecuador

Public Figures:

12. Jennifer McCoy, Director, Americas Program. the Carter Center
13. Marcelo Varela-Erasheva, Associate Director, Americas Program. The Carter Center.
14. Ana Maria Romero, Executive Director CGDD
15. Gina Romero. General Coordinator of the RedLad
16. Carlos Eduardo Ponce. Member of the International Steering Committee of Community of Democracies and of the Steering Committee of the World Movement for Democracy. CG Redlad
17. Rosa Quintana. CGA Redlad, ADHC Uruguay (Association of the Defense of Human Rights Uruguay).



18. Hans Tippenhauer. Foundation Espoir, Haití. CGA Redlad
19. Abraham Magendzo. UNESCO Chair in Human Rights Education. University Academy of Christian Humanism (Chile).
20. Adriana Jiménez Patlán (México)
21. Aixa Armas. Woman and Citizen a.c.(Venezuela)
22. Alberto Sladogna, psychoanalyst (Argentina)
23. Alejandro Armas. Civil Space a.c. (Venezuela)
24. Alejandro Orozco. President of the Federation of Law Students of Venezuela - FEDEVE.
25. Alessandra Nilo. Gestos-HIV, Gender and Communication (Brasil)
26. Alicia Arias. (Ecuador).
27. Alvaro Briceño. Urgent Action for Democracy and Development, UADD, (Canadá).
28. Ana Carcedo. Feminist Centre for Information and Action-CEFEMINA (Costa Rica).
29. Andrés Rivera Duarte Director of the Organization of Transexuals for Dignity and Diversity - OTD (Chile)
30. Angel Eduardo Marín. Collective Conscience Project. (Colombia)
31. Angel Paredes (Venezuela)
32. Antonio Marquet. Humanities Department, Departamento de Humanidades. Metropolitan Autonomous University, Azcapotzalco (México)
33. Armando Obdola. President of Kape Kape Indigenous Leadership (Venezuela).
34. Azahálea Solís Román. Autonomous Movement of Women in Nicaragua.
35. Carlos March. (Argentina)
36. Carlos Tinoco. Gerente General. Development and Justice Consortium, A.C. (Venezuela).
37. César Ricaurte. FUNDAMEDIOS (Ecuador)
38. Cirila Quintero. Professor and Researcher at the School of the Northern Border (México)
39. Claudia Pineda, Executive Director of the IEEPP (Nicaragua)
40. Claudia Umaña. Democracy, Transparency, Justice Foundation-DTJ (El Salvador)
41. Cristofer Correia. VenteJoven (Venezuela).
42. David Aruquipa Pérez. President of the Collective LGBT of Bolivia
43. Deborah van Berkel. (Venezuela)
44. Diego Marcelo Sueiras. New Generation Argentina Foundation(FNGA)
45. Elayne Pire. Lawyer (Venezuela).
46. Elisabeth Ungar. Transparency for Colombia



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47. George Lendo. Center for the Promotion and Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights (PERU).
48. German Humberto Rincon Perfetti. Association of Leaders in Action (Colombia)
49. Giovanni Ginatta Inter American Entrepreneurial Federation –FIE (Ecuador).
50. Gloria Careaga Rainbow Foundation for the Respect of Sexual Diversity.(México)
51. Jackeline Sandoval de Guevara. Foundation for Due Process-FUNDEPRO (Venezuela).
52. Jaime Vintimilla. Center on Law and Society-CIDES (Ecuador)
53. Javier Loaiza. New Politics (Colombia).
54. Jeannette Alexandra Rosas Rodríguez. CORPOALEGRIA (Colombia).
55. Jhon Esteban. Venezuela Organization of Youth for the United Nations -OVJNU (Venezuela).
56. Joel Brito. International Group for Corporate Social Responsibility in Cuba.– GIRSSC.
57. Julio César Cabrera. President of the Permanent Forum of Civil society organizations of Honduras -FPOSC.
58. Karem Holmquist H. (Venezuela).
59. Katya Salazar. Due Process of Law Foundation-DPLF.
60. Laura Alonso. Deputy of the Nation Argentina.
61. Lawrence Castro. Popular Will (Venezuela).
62. Layla Sánchez Kuri. Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the UNAM (México).
63. Lilia Ramírez. Institute of Legal Defense (Perú).
64. Lillyam Canales. Executive Director of Puente Movement (Nicaragua).
65. Luis Francisco Cabezas. Convite AC (Venezuela).
66. Mabel Bianco. Foundation for Studies and Research on Women-FEIM (Argentina).
67. Manuel de Ferrari. Corporation Participates(Chile).
68. María del Pilar Callizo (Paraguay).
69. María Eugenia Rojas Valverde. (Bolivia).
70. María Eugenia Romero (México).
71. María José Zamora Solórzano. (Nicaragua).
72. María Victoria Rivas. Center of Judicial Studies of Paraguay -CEJ. (Paraguay).
73. Mariclaire Acosta (México)
74. Marta Ferrara. Executive Director. Origins for Democracy (Paraguay)
75. Marta Maria Blandon, Director of Ipas Central America (Nicaragua).
76. Marta Gaba. MG Consultants (Argentina).
77. Martha Villanueva. Safo Group (Nicaragua).
78. Marysabel Linares Van Denker (Venezuela)
79. Mauricio Alarcón Salvador. Citizenship and Development Foundation(Ecuador).



80. Mauricio Saenz Ramirez (México).
81. Mónica Coronado Sotelo. Kolectiva Rebeldías Lésbicas (Perú).
82. Natividad Obeso. Civil Association of Human Rights of United Women Migrants and Refugees in Argentina -AMUMRA.
83. Pablo Innecken. World Youth Movement for Democracy (Ambassador for Costa Rica).
84. Patricia Galvez (Ecuador)
85. Pedro Cruz. President, Youth for Guatemala.
86. Pedro Xabier Solis, Executive Director, Let's do Democracy (Nicaragua)
87. Ramiro Orias. Build Foundation (Bolivia).
88. Ricardo R. Racini. Director: Civil Association Consortium of Development and Justice.
89. Roberto Courtney. Ethics and Transparency (Nicaragua).
90. Roderick Navarro. President of the Venezuelan Federation of Political Science Students.
91. Rodrigo Diamanti. A World Without Mordaza (Venezuela).
92. Rommel González. Popular Regional Indigenous Council of Xpujil (México).
93. Rosa Inés Ospina. Regional Incentive for Civil Society Accountability (Argentina).
94. Ruth Hidalgo. Citizen Participation of Ecuador.
95. Sergio Balladares. Puente Movement (Nicaragua).
96. Susana Ines Stilman. President of Working Women. Coordinator of the Gender Equity Committee of the Consultative Council of Civil Society of the Argentina Chancellery .
97. Tarcila Rivera Zea. Centre for Indigenous Culture of Peru- CHIRAPAQ.
98. Viviana Giacaman. Freedom House (United States).

Organizations:

99. The Carter Center
100. Global Center for Development and Democracy/Global Center for Development-CGDD.
101. Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy -RedLad.
102. Esquipulas Foundation
103. ADHC Uruguay (Association of Defense of Human Rights Uruguay).
104. AMUMRA Civil Association of Human Rights United Women Migrants and Refugees in Argentina.
105. Civil Association Consortium for Development and Justice.
106. Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas – ECMIA.
107. Association of Leaders in Action (Colombia).
108. Center for Judicial Studies in Paraguay -CEJ. (Paraguay).
109. Center for Promotion and Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights (Perú).



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110. Center on Rights and Society -CIDES (Ecuador)
111. Centre for Indigenous Culture of Peru- CHIRAPAQ
112. LGBT Collective of Bolivia.
113. Popular Indigenous Regional Council of Xpujil (México)
114. Consortium of Development and Justice, A.C. (Venezuela).
115. Convite AC (Venezuela).
116. Due Process of Law Foundation-DPLF.
117. CORPOALEGRIA (NGO for people with disabilities) (Colombia).
118. Corporación Participa; Corporation Participants (Chile).
119. Team for the New Political Magazine.
120. Tomás Moro School of Government (Colombia).
121. Civil Space a.c. (Venezuela).
122. Ethics and Transparency (Nicaragua).
123. Federation of Law Students of Venezuela -FEDEVE.
124. Inter American Entrepreneurial Federation–FIE (Ecuador).
125. Venezuelan Federation of Political Science Students.
126. Permanent Forum of Civil Society Organizations in Honduras (FPOSC).
127. Freedom House (Estados Unidos).
128. Rainbow Foundation por the Respect of Sexual Diversity.(México).
129. Citizenship and Development Foundation (Ecuador).
130. Build Foundation (Bolivia).
131. Democracy, Transparency, Justice Foundation -DTJ (El Salvador).
132. Espoir Foundation (Haití).
133. New Generation Argentina Foundation -FNGA.
134. Foundation for Due Process -FUNDEPRO (Venezuela).
135. FUNDAMEDIOS (Ecuador).
136. Gestos-HIV, Gender Communication (Brasil).
137. International Group for Corporate Social Responsibility in Cuba –GIRSSC.
138. Safo Group (Nicaragua).
139. Let's do Democracy (Nicaragua)
140. Regional initiative of Civil Society Accountability (Argentina).
141. Foundation for Studies and Research on Women-FEIM (Argentina).
142. Feminist Centre for Information and Action-CEFEMINA (Costa Rica)
143. IPAS Central America (Nicaragua).
144. Institute of Legal Defense (Perú).
145. Institute of Statagic and Public Policy Studies IEEPP (Nicaragua)
146. Legal Defense Institute (Peru).
147. Youth foe Guatemala.
148. Collective Lesbian Rebellions (Perú).
149. MG Consultants (Argentina).

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150. Autonomous Movement of Women in Nicaragua.
151. Puente Movement(Nicaragua).
152. Women and Citizenship a.c. (Venezuela).
153. Working Women
154. Venezuelan Organization for the Youth of the United Nation (Venezuela).
155. Citizenship Participation of Ecuador.
156. Collective Conscious Project (Colombia).
157. Origins for Democracy (Paraguay).
158. Transparency for Colombia.
159. A World without Mordaza (Venezuela).
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161. VenteJoven (Venezuela).
162. Popular Will (Venezuela).