# **URGENT ACTION**

### STUDENTS KILLED AND OTHERS MISSING IN GUERRERO

On 26 September, students were intercepted by Mexican police patrols firing shots and then later attacked by unknown individuals in Iguala, Guerrero state. At least six people were killed, 20 were injured and the whereabouts of 38 remain unknown.

On 26 September at around 9pm, 80 students of the rural teacher-training college Escuela Normal Rural Raúl Isidro Burgos of Ayotzinapa were leaving the town of Iguala in three buses to return to Chilpancingo, the capital of Guerrero state.

According to reports, as the buses were leaving Iguala, they were intercepted by municipal police who opened fire without warning. The buses stopped and students were fired on as they got out and fled, seriously wounding at least one student. More than 20 people were arrested. The whereabouts of those detained are unknown. Three hours later as students told journalists what had happened, an unmarked vehicle approached them and gunmen in civilian clothes opened fire once again on those present. At least two students were killed and several others were injured. In total four violent incidents involving municipal police and unidentified gunmen occurred over the night, at least three students, a bus driver and a member of local football team and another civilian were shot and killed.

At 7am on 27 September students approached the local office of the State Attorney General's Office (Procuraduría General de Justicia del Estado, PGJE) to file complaints and demand information on their missing colleagues. The authorities denied all knowledge. Later that day, students were informed that the body of another student had been located, displaying signs of torture. Since then the whereabouts of some students have been established, but at least 38 remain unaccounted for. In response to the violence, 22 municipal police were arrested but the reasons for the police conduct, the involvement of superiors and the involvement of unknown gunmen have not been clarified.

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

- Urging the federal and state authorities to take all necessary measures to promptly establish the whereabouts of all the missing students and ensure their physical and mental safety;
- Urging them to ensure the results of a full, prompt and impartial investigation into the shootings and reported arbitrary arrests of 26 September are made public and all those responsible are brought to justice, including those responsible for the police operation and with links to unidentified gunmen.

#### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 12 NOVEMBER 2014 TO:

Minister of Interior
Miguel Ángel Osorio Chong
Secretario de Gobernación
Bucareli 99, col. Juárez, C.P. 6600,

México D.F., México Fax: +5255 5093 3414 (keep trying)

Email: secretario@segob.gob.mx
Salutation: Dear Minister/

Señor Ministro

Governor of State of Guerrero
Lic. Ángel Heladio Aguirre Rivero
Palacio de Gobierno

Edificio Centro 2do Piso, Col. Ciudad de los Servicios, C.P. 39074 Chilpancingo

Guerrero, México

Fax: +5274 7471 9956/ 0908 (say "fax")

Email:

secretariaparticulargb@guerrero.gob.mx

Salutation: Dear Governor /

Señor Gobernador

#### And copies to:

<u>Local human rights organization</u>
Centro de Derechos Humanos de la
Montaña "Tlachinollan"

Email: tlachi.internacional@gmail.com

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.





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#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Amnesty International receives reports of arbitrary detentions, torture and enforced disappearances in Mexico. The government acknowledged 22,000 people remain missing or disappeared in Mexico, an unknown number as a result of enforced disappearances in which public officials are implicated.

In December 2011, Ayotzinapa students protesting outside the state capital Chilpancingo were attacked by state and federal police resulting in three deaths and at least 24 people suffering torture and other ill-treatment. Those police and superiors responsible for the abuses against students have never been held to account encouraging a climate of impunity. For more information, see *Mexico urged to investigate student deaths in clash with police* (http://www.amnesty.org/en/news/mexico-urged-investigate-student-deaths-clash-police-2011-12-13) and *Known abusers, but victims ignored: Torture and ill-treatment in Mexico* (http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR41/063/2012/en).

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