



## BAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

### Dear members,

A brief update of the BHRC activities during April. Please get in touch if you wish to respond to the *Call to Members* section.

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### APRIL STATEMENTS AND LETTERS OF CONCERN

**GUATEMALA** - On the 26th May the BHRC and Solicitors International sent a letter expressing concern about the current decision to annul the criminal proceedings in which General Efraín Ríos Montt and Mauricio Rodríguez Sánchez, the former chief of Military Intelligence, are being tried on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity in Guatemala. This is a landmark case relating to the massacre of 1,771 Indigenous Ixil Maya carried out by Guatemalan troops and paramilitary forces during General Ríos Montt's rule from March 1982, to August 1983. Both organisations called upon the authorities to ensure that the trial is duly, fairly and properly completed. [See letter](#)

**COLOMBIA** - On 8th April, the BHRC expressed concern at the murder of the sixth lawyer this year in Colombia, on this occasion in the western province of Valle de Cauca. The BHRC has for many years maintained support to lawyers and human rights defenders in this country and called to end impunity for all these murderers. [See statement](#)

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### APRIL ROUND-TABLE MEETING

#### Q&A round-table meeting with Colombian Constitutional Judge Luis Ernesto Vargas - COLOMBIA

Colombian Constitutional Court Judge Luis Ernesto Vargas is visiting London and will participate in a Q&A round-table meeting with the BHRC on the 30th April. He has spent the last 34 years working in the Colombian Judicial System and became a Constitutional Court Judge in 2009. This year he will take up his new position as Vice-President of the Constitutional Court. Among other topics, Judge Vargas Silva will talk about forced displacement in Colombia, sexual violence, the rights of indigenous and Afro-Colombian Peoples, prior consultation and the current situation of the Constitutional Court. If you are interested to attend, please contact [coordination@barhumanrights.org.uk](mailto:coordination@barhumanrights.org.uk)

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#### CALL TO MEMBERS - Recruitment for a Human Rights Consultant (*pro bono*) - NEPAL

##### Purpose

Assist WHRIN with drafting a country report on violence against women accused of witchcraft in Nepal. This report will look to explore in-depth the issue and make a number of recommendations aimed at key stake holders in Nepal. The BHRC Consultant is expected to develop the section concerned with analysis of international human rights law.

##### Participation in the launch of the report in Nepal:

The consultant will be invited to participate in the launch of the report which will take place in Kathmandu, later in 2013. WHRIN will cover flights and accommodations costs for attendance at the launch.

**Terms of consultancy:**

*Pro bono*

Three months commitment (Ideally from 1<sup>st</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013)

Remote and part-time (approximately 10-15 hours a week)

**Criteria:**

Expertise in international human rights law, ideally women's rights.

Experience in producing international advocacy reports for a variety of audiences is strongly desirable.

Understanding or experience with witchcraft cases or good understanding of this through research is strongly desirable.

**To apply:**

Interested candidates are invited to send a brief covering letter or e-mail addressing how you meet the criteria for this post along with a recent CV.

**Deadline to apply:** 10<sup>th</sup> May

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**LATEST BHRC REPORTS**

**Second Hearing Observation Report. The Prosecution of Former Maldivian President Mohamed Nasheed - **THE MALDIVES****

