

# URGENT ACTION

## NEW THREAT AGAINST COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS

**Mexican community activists Margarita Martínez and Adolfo Guzmán Ordaz have received a new death threat, despite having police protection outside their house.**

Margarita Martínez and Adolfo Guzmán Ordaz are a married couple, both of whom are community activists in Chiapas state, Mexico. On the morning of 20 October 2011, Margarita Martínez found an envelope under their car, which was parked inside the walls of their house in San Cristobal de las Casas. The police guards, who are permanently stationed at their house as part of the protection measures for the couple, denied having seen how the envelope had been placed inside the house. The written message stated: "Just so you know there is no justice so best shut your mouth if you don't want to disappear, we are the law and we are protected, death death death". ("Para que sepas no hay justicia mayor sierra [sic] la boca si no quieres desaparecer somos la ley y estamos protegidos muerte muerte muerte")

Later the same day, six representatives of the Chiapas State Attorney General's Office (*Procuraduría General de Justicia de estado*) arrived at the house. According to Adolfo Guzmán and Margarita Martínez, the officials were aggressive and intimidating, refusing to respect the requests of the two not to be filmed. The officials only left after Adolfo Guzmán Ordaz called local human rights organization, Fray Bartolome de las Casas Human Rights Centre (*Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolome de las Casas*), to tell them about the visitors' aggressive behavior.

Adolfo Guzmán and Margarita Martínez first received threats in December 2009 and on several occasions in 2010 after filing a complaint against judicial police for an illegal raid on their home in the town of Comitán, Chiapas, in November 2009. In February 2010, Margarita Martínez was kidnapped and threatened, to deter the couple from pursuing their complaint. As a result of the threats against the couple, the Inter American Commission of Human Rights ordered the government to provide them with protection.

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

- Call on the authorities to ensure effective and immediate protection for Adolfo Guzmán, Margarita Martínez and their children, and for a full review of existing measures in accordance with the wishes of the couple;
- Urge them to order a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into the death threat against them on 20 October and other threats received since 2009, and for those responsible be brought to justice.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 5 DECEMBER 2011 TO:**

#### **Minister of the Interior**

Lic. José Francisco Blake Mora  
Secretaría de Gobernación  
Bucareli 99, 1er. piso,  
Col. Juárez, Del. Cuauhtémoc,  
México D.F., C.P. 06600,  
MEXICO  
Fax: 011 52 55 5093 3414  
E-mail: [secretario@segob.gob.mx](mailto:secretario@segob.gob.mx)  
Salutation: Señor Secretario/  
Dear Minister

#### **Governor of Chiapas**

Lic. Juan José Sabines Guerrero  
Gobernador del Estado de Chiapas  
Palacio de Gobierno,  
1º piso, Col. Centro, C.P. 29000, Tuxtla  
Gutiérrez, Chiapas,  
MEXICO  
Fax: 011 52 961 618 8050, ext.: 21122  
Email: [juansabines@chiapas.gob.mx](mailto:juansabines@chiapas.gob.mx)  
Salutation: Dear Governor/  
Señor Gobernador

#### **Chiapas Attorney General**

Mtro. Raciél López Salazar  
Procurador General de Justicia del Estado  
de Chiapas  
Libramiento no. 2010, Col. El Bosque,  
Tuxtla Gutiérrez, CP 29049  
MEXICO  
Fax: 011 52 961 6165724  
Email: [pgje-chiapas@hotmail.com](mailto:pgje-chiapas@hotmail.com)  
Salutation: Dear Attorney General/  
Señor Procurado

### **Also send copies to:**

Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolomé de las Casas, AC,  
Email: [frayba@frayba.org.mx](mailto:frayba@frayba.org.mx)

Ambassador Arturo Sarukhan Casamitjana, Embassy of Mexico, 1911 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington DC 20006  
Fax: 1 202 728 1698 | Email: [mexembusa@sre.gob.mx](mailto:mexembusa@sre.gob.mx)

Please check with the AIUSA Urgent Action Office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Adolfo Guzmán works for the community organization Enlace Comunicación y Capacitación (Communication and Training Link), which provides human rights and sustainable economic development training for rural and Indigenous communities. Margarita Martínez has been an activist with several local civil society organizations, and had recently volunteered in Enlace Comunicación y Capacitación, delivering training.

**Name(s):** Margarita Martínez (f)  
Adolfo Guzmán Ordaz (m)

**Issue(s):** Intimidation, Harassment

**Further information on UA:** 16/10 (15 January 2010) and follow-ups (3 March 2010 and 29 November 2010)

**Issue Date:** 24 October 2011

**Country:** Mexico