

URGENT ACTION

DETAINEE'S FATE AND WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

Raúl Isaías Baduel was unexpectedly taken from his cell at Ramo Verde National Military Detention Centre, Caracas, at dawn on 8 August 2017. There has been no information regarding his whereabouts since.

The whereabouts of **Raúl Isaías Baduel**, a retired general of the Armed Forces who had been detained in Ramo Verde Military Detention Centre since 12 January 2017, have been unknown since 8 August 2017. The authorities refuse to share any information they have with his family and lawyers. According to sources in Ramo Verde Military Detention Centre, Raúl Isaías Baduel was removed from his cell on the morning of 8 August, at approximately 5:30am, and taken to an unknown location.

Raúl Isaías Baduel was last seen by his family on 6 August and, according to his lawyer, was in good health at the time. However, seeing as the authorities are unwilling to disclose his fate and whereabouts, his family and lawyers fear for his life and personal integrity.

1) TAKE ACTION

Write a letter, send an email, call, fax or tweet:

- Demanding the authorities immediately provide information on the fate and whereabouts of Raúl Isaías Baduel and ensure his physical and mental integrity are protected;
- Demanding they immediately grant him free and private access to his family, and lawyers of his choosing;
- Urging them to ensure full respect of Raúl Isaías Baduel's rights.

Contact these two officials by 22 September, 2017:

Minister of the Interior and Justice

Gen. (Ej.) Néstor Luis Reverol Torres

Ministerio del Interior y Justicia

Avenida Urdaneta Esquina de Platanal

Edificio Interior y Justicia, Despacho del Ministro

Caracas, Venezuela

Fax: +58 212 506 1685

Salutation: **Señor Ministro/Dear Minister**

Charge d'Affaires Carlos J. Ron

Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

1099 30th St. NW

Washington DC 20007

Phone: 1 202 342 2214; Fax: 1 202 342 6820

Email: despacho.embveus@mppre.gob.ve OR

Politica.embveusa@mppre.gob.ve

Salutation: **Dear Ambassador**

2) LET US KNOW YOU TOOK ACTION

[Click here](#) to let us know if you took action on this case! *This is Urgent Action 33.17*

Here's why it is so important to report your actions: we record the actions taken on each case—letters, emails, calls and tweets—and use that information in our advocacy.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Raul Isaías Baduel is a retired general of the Armed Forces and former Minister of Defense of Venezuela, who retired in 2007, and has since been a public critic of the current government. In 2006, after a trial under military law, he was sentenced to seven years and 11 months by a military court.

Raúl Isaías Baduel has been imprisoned since 2009 for a range of charges, which are widely considered to have been politically motivated given his public opposition to government policies. In 2016, he was granted parole which was then suddenly revoked on 12 January 2017.

On 3 March 2017 he was set to complete his prison sentence, but the day before his scheduled release a military court found him guilty of treason and military rebellion and issued him with a new prison sentence. After this new sentence, the former general was kept incommunicado for an extended period of time, a violation which Amnesty International denounced in Urgent Action 33/17.

His son, Raúl Emilio Baduel, was arbitrarily detained in March 2014 during a peaceful protest in the city of Maracay, in central Venezuela, during the massive demonstrations held by both government supporters and protestors. He has been in detention since and his lawyers have reported repeated instances of Raúl Emilio Baduel being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

Name: Raúl Isaías Baduel
Gender: m

Further information on UA: 33/17 Index: AMR 53/6932/2017 Issue Date: 11 August 2017