

NO ARMS FOR ATROCITIES OR ABUSES

COMMIT TO AN EFFECTIVE
ARMS TRADE TREATY

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



“He fell on the ground but nobody was able to take him away from the street as the tanks were nearby. That is when an army tank deliberately crushed his body repeatedly.”

Eyewitness account of the killing of Khaled al-Hamedh in Hama, Syria

INTRODUCTION

Each year, the global trade in conventional arms carries an enormous human cost. Serious human rights abuses have been committed around the world using a wide range of weaponry, armaments, munitions and related material. Thousands of people have been killed, injured, raped and forced to flee from their homes as a result.

Weaknesses and loopholes in existing national, regional and multilateral arms control mechanisms have enabled states and other parties to continue trading arms irresponsibly and with impunity. But now the absence of international standards to adequately regulate conventional arms trading and transfers can finally be addressed.

In July 2012, UN member states will be invited to the UN conference to negotiate an Arms Trade Treaty. Prior to this, states will be refining their positions on the Treaty's content and participating in the final preparatory meeting in February 2012. Now is the time to ensure that the Treaty contains the highest possible common standards for the import, export and

transfer of conventional arms. This is essential to help prevent serious violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

The likelihood of an international arms transfer being used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international law must be rigorously assessed and, where the risk is substantial, the transfer should not be authorized. Risk analysis should also examine the likelihood of any foreseeable events to prevent such future violations.

This briefing documents five personal stories in the context of human rights violations committed or facilitated using conventional arms in law enforcement or military operations. The main suppliers of the types of arms used by military, security or police forces, or armed groups are shown in each case.

Amnesty International is calling on political leaders and state officials to take action for the individuals in the following cases using the postcards provided and to lobby their governments to commit to an effective Arms Trade Treaty with respect for human rights at its core.



SYRIA LIVES LOST IN VIOLENT CRACKDOWN

KHALED AL-HAMEDH

Shortly after breakfast on 31 July 2011, 21-year-old construction worker Khaled al-Hamedh left his home in the city of Hama to buy medicine for his four-year-old brother, who had a fever. He never came home. Several hours later, family members laid him to rest in the garden of nearby al-Serjawi mosque, his body crushed and a bullet wound in his back.

When Khaled al-Hamedh walked out into Hama's Bab Qebli neighbourhood that morning, Syrian security forces were encroaching on the city with tanks and firing into residential areas. Bystanders later recounted to his family that he had been "shot in the back while attempting to cross over to the hospital". An army tank then deliberately drove over him. Only when the tanks had pulled away could bystanders approach and take Khaled al-Hamedh's body to the hospital.



Left: A Syrian military tank takes position in a residential street in the city of Homs, 160km northeast of Damascus, August 2011.

Cover: A soldier of the Chadian national army (ANT) sits on a pick-up truck loaded with rocket propelled guns in front of the Presidential Palace in N'Djamena, Chad, February 2008.

© PASCAL GUYOT/AFP/Getty Images

UN Customs Category	Supplier	Value US\$
Military weapons (89112)	Egypt	618,685
Non-military firearms (89131)	Egypt	296,785
Munitions (89129)	France	1,254,580
Tanks and other armoured fighting vehicles (89111)	India	1,132,320

Total value of exports to Syria between 2005 and 2009.

period, according to UN trade data shown in the table above.

Evidence of crimes against humanity committed by Syrian state forces continues to grow. An effective Arms Trade Treaty could have helped to prevent such crimes. Amnesty International is now calling on the UN Security Council to impose an immediate, comprehensive arms embargo on Syria, and to refer the situation there to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Syrian government should:

- Conduct a thorough, prompt, impartial and independent investigation into the killing of Khaled al-Hamedh and into all reported deaths during or in connection with the protests since mid-March.
- Ensure that all those responsible are brought to justice.

Pro-reform demonstrations began in Syria in February 2011 and became mass protests by mid-March. The Syrian authorities have responded with extreme force in their efforts to suppress them. Tanks and other armoured vehicles have been used in military operations and reportedly shelled civilian residential areas in the towns and cities where protests have occurred. Security forces have shot people dead. Sniper rifles have also been used and snipers have targeted people trying to help the wounded on the streets. The Syrian navy is alleged to have used gun boats to shell the port city of Latakia.

As of early January 2012, Amnesty International has obtained the names of 4,345 people who have been killed in the crackdown. Many are believed to have been shot by security forces using live ammunition while participating in peaceful protests or attending funerals of people killed in earlier protests. The Syrian authorities have arrested thousands of others, holding many incommunicado at undisclosed locations where torture and other ill-treatment are reported to be widespread.

MAIN ARMS SUPPLIERS TO SYRIA

The Russian Federation is reportedly Syria's biggest arms supplier, with 10 per cent of all its arms exports going there. These have included missiles and missile launchers, and anti-tank missiles for the modernized Russian-made T72 tank. Slovakia supplied 139 T-72 tanks to Syria in the early 1990s.

In 2008, Italy authorized approximately US\$3,680,150 under the licensing category for fire control systems. This is possibly related to an estimated US\$200 million contract with Galileo Avionica of Italy, to upgrade 122 T-72 Main Battle Tanks with the Tank Universal Reconfiguration Modular System T-series tank fire-control system.

Few countries officially report on their arms trading with Syria. It is, therefore, difficult to identify which states have supplied the types of arms that have been used to suppress protests.

Egypt, France and India have also supplied Syria with military weapons, non-military firearms, munitions, and tanks and other armoured fighting vehicles over a five-year



CHAD ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE OF OPPOSITION LEADER

IBNI OUMAR MAHAMAT SALEH

Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh (*above*), leader of the Chadian opposition Party for Freedom and Development, was arrested on 3 February 2008 at his home in N'Djamena by the Chadian security forces. An eyewitness said:

"The soldiers kept us at bay with their weapons and four of them went and knocked on the door of the house. A little while later, Ibni Oumar came out with the soldiers. One of them fired in the direction of one of the people standing at the door, accusing him of being a liar because he had said that he did not know Ibni Oumar."

The arrest of Ibni Oumar and three other men occurred during a two-day offensive on the Chadian capital of N'Djamena by opposition armed groups in early February 2008. The government stated that those arrested were suspected of supporting armed opposition groups.

Intense fighting raged in various parts of N'Djamena on 2 and 3 February before government forces regained control and the armed opposition retreated across the border into Sudan. Hundreds of civilians were killed or injured and many people were arbitrarily detained, tortured and forcibly disappeared. These attacks occurred in the context of mounting tension with neighbouring Sudan. Both governments accused the other of supporting and providing bases to armed opposition groups.

There were numerous aerial attacks in the city using military helicopters. Fragments from the weapons used in the offensive, and obtained by Amnesty International, were found to be from an air-launched S-5M 57mm HE fragmentation rocket. These rockets are typically fired from rocket launchers carrying between four and 32 rockets, mounted on military aircraft or attack helicopters. They are unguided, high explosive weapons and should not be used for attacks near civilian populations because of their inability to distinguish between military and civilian targets.



On 27 February 2008, the Chadian government announced the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry to examine human rights violations committed during the N'Djamena offensive, including the fate of Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh. A presidential decree passed on 23 May 2011 established a follow-up committee on the recommendations of the Commission. Despite investigations and numerous interviews, the Commission was unable to ascertain what happened to Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh. His fate and whereabouts remained unknown at the end of 2011.

Amnesty International considers Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh to be a victim of enforced disappearance by the Chadian security forces. During the last two decades, the organization has documented numerous disappearances of Chadian opposition figures and other individuals, particularly in April 2006 in N'Djamena and November 2007 in the Dar Tama region, eastern Chad. The ready availability of arms in Chad resulting from the absence of an effective Arms Trade Treaty has contributed to ongoing violations of human rights there.

Part of an S-5M 57mm HE fragmentation rocket, recovered after an attack in February 2008 involving armed opposition groups in N'Djamena, Chad. During two days of fighting, hundreds of civilians were killed or injured.



MAIN ARMS SUPPLIERS TO CHAD

Amnesty International has documented arms transfers to Chad involving a number of countries including Belgium, France, Libya, Serbia, and South Africa.

■ According to UN trade data, between 2003 and 2010, France sold nearly US\$4.7 million worth of arms and ammunition to Chad. However, in actual exports, the bulk of this figure relates to the delivery of nearly US\$4.3 million worth of “munitions of war” in 2008 – the year in which the offensive took place in N'Djamena. Annual government reports on arms exports from France to Chad between 2006 and 2010 record approximately US\$24.8 million, excluding military and civilian equipment donated by France to the Chadian authorities. On 14 February 2008, the French Ministry of Defence acknowledged that the French army had assisted the Chadian government in transporting ammunition from Libya into Chad.

■ In 2006, Serbia exported nearly US\$900,000 worth of “other cartridges and parts thereof” to Chad, according to UN

data. A Chadian end-use certificate dated 4 July 2006 and presented by an Israeli broker to the Serb authorities requested the sale of two million rounds of 5.56mm ammunition for the “Forces Armées” and the “Sécurité de la République du Tchad”.

■ On 3 March 2007, there were reports that an order of 40 French-made AML 90 armoured tanks, delivered to Belgium from South Africa, had arrived in Chad. They were reportedly for use in the east of the country near the Sudanese border. A Belgian company known to supply such vehicles declined Amnesty International's request to confirm or deny the delivery. However, the Belgian authorities stated that no approval had been granted to ship armoured vehicles to Chad. Instead, authorization was given to sell armoured vehicles to France, without any restrictions as to further sales or transfers.

Information on clandestine arms supplies to Chadian armed opposition groups based in Darfur, Sudan, is more difficult to obtain. However, there is evidence that they have been using Chinese small arms and light weapons. Examples include arms captured

from the Union of Forces of Democracy and Development and admissions by another opposition group, the Rally of Forces for Change, both in 2007. In 2006, members of armed opposition group, the United Front for Democratic Change, were photographed carrying Chinese-made QLZ87 35mm automatic grenade launchers outside the town of El Geneina in western Darfur, near the Chadian border. The group's commander had just claimed to have visited China.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chadian government should:

- Immediately disclose the fate and whereabouts of Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh and promptly inform his family and his legal representative.
- Initiate an independent and impartial investigation into his enforced disappearance and bring those responsible to justice.



SRI LANKA STUDENT SHOT DEAD

RAGIHAR MANOHARAN

Ragihar Manoharan (*above*) was one of five Tamil students shot dead by Sri Lankan security forces in the north-eastern town of Trincomalee on 2 January 2006. He was 20 years old.

Ragihar was with fellow students on Trincomalee's seafront when someone in a passing auto-rickshaw threw a grenade, which injured several in the group. A short time later, 10 to 15 uniformed officers arrived, believed to be police from the elite Special Task Force. They put the injured students into their jeep and beat them with rifle butts before pushing them out onto the road. Witnesses stated that the officers then shot dead all five students, including Ragihar.

A commission was established to investigate the incident but its report has never been published. No thorough investigation has ever been conducted and no one has been

brought to justice for the murder of Ragihar and his companions.

Sri Lanka emerged from a bitter and protracted armed conflict in 2009. The conflict between the government and the armed separatist group, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), lasted almost three decades. Both parties committed serious human rights violations and tens of thousands of civilians were killed; many more were injured and abused.

Despite these persistent serious human rights violations committed by Sri Lankan security forces and the LTTE, and in the absence of an effective Arms Trade Treaty, foreign governments continued to allow the supply of a wide range of weaponry, munitions and other equipment to Sri Lanka.



MAIN ARMS SUPPLIERS TO SRI LANKA

A range of conventional arms have been supplied to Sri Lanka between 2000 and 2009 by several states including China, Czech Republic, Israel, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Ukraine and the USA.

- According to UN trade data, Pakistan supplied military weapons to Sri Lanka worth US\$6 million in 2008 and 2009, and the USA supplied US\$6.4 million in 2007 and 2008 respectively. Pakistan was also a major supplier of munitions.
- Between 2001 and 2009, major suppliers of munitions of war included Israel (US\$2.88 million), Slovakia (US\$4.3 million) and the USA (US\$3.95 million).
- China has supplied a wide range of arms. For example, in May 2007, *Jane's Defence Weekly* reported that, according to a cabinet memorandum, the Sri Lankan government agreed a US\$37.6 million deal with Chinese company Poly Technologies to supply munitions such as cannon charge shells and mortars. Sri



Left: A Special Task Force motorcycle unit soldier guards a roadside checkpoint in Colombo, Sri Lanka, November 2008.

Below: A funeral procession for five students who were killed by Sri Lankan security forces in Trincomalee on 2 January 2006.

Lanka had a previous ammunition contract worth US\$100 million with another Chinese company, Norinco.

■ Between 2000 and 2006, the main suppliers of heavy weaponry and armaments, including battle tanks, armoured vehicles, rocket systems, combat aircraft and helicopters, were China, Czech

Republic, Israel, Pakistan, Russia and Ukraine.

■ European Union (EU) export data shows that the UK, Czech Republic, Spain, Slovakia and Bulgaria were the largest suppliers of arms to Sri Lanka between 2001 and 2008.

■ In February 2010, the Russian Federation and Sri Lanka signed a US\$300 million loan for the supply and repair of a range of arms, including military helicopters.

The LTTE has continued to source arms through well-developed arms trafficking networks, and has captured much of its artillery from the Sri Lanka Army.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon should:

■ Establish an independent, international mechanism to investigate crimes under international law committed in Sri Lanka, including the killing of Ragihar Manoharan and his companions.

■ Make the results public and, where there is sufficient evidence, prosecute those responsible in proceedings that meet international fair standards.



Left: Children of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community in Colombia.



COLOMBIA PERSECUTION OF A COMMUNITY IN INTERNAL ARMED CONFLICT

THE PEACE COMMUNITY OF SAN JOSÉ DE APARTADÓ

Colombia's internal armed conflict has pitted security forces and paramilitaries against guerrilla groups for more than 45 years. The Peace Community of San José de Apartadó was created in March 1997, when people living in villages of the Apartadó municipality, north-western Colombia, pledged not to be drawn into the violence. Their decision has been met with suspicion and hostility from all sides.

Since then, more than 170 members of the Peace Community and other civilians living in the area have been killed or forcibly disappeared, while others have been threatened or sexually assaulted, the vast majority by army-backed paramilitaries and the security forces. Guerrilla forces have also been responsible for numerous threats and killings.

Heavily armed paramilitaries are still present in the area, despite the deployment of soldiers and police there, and government claims that all paramilitaries have demobilized.

Paramilitaries have repeatedly threatened to kill members of the Peace Community. On 23 March 2011, the 14th anniversary of the Community's creation, paramilitaries told a Community member that they had to leave or the killings would continue. The paramilitaries also warned that they had planned with the security forces to "exterminate" the Community. On 19 and 20 November 2011, paramilitaries set up road checkpoints around hamlets nearby. They told people from the Community that they were forbidden from taking food back to their houses. These threats came at a time when there were reports that paramilitaries had consolidated their presence in the areas around the Peace Community.

Killings, threats and enforced disappearances have become commonplace in the Community and to date, the government has not put in place and implemented

adequate protection measures to ensure the safety of those living there.

Members of the security forces have also regularly threatened members of the Community. Guerrilla forces of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, FARC) continue to threaten and kill civilians they consider to be collaborating with their enemies. In February 2011, FARC guerrillas were reported to have killed two people living in the area of San José de Apartadó; one was known to have close links to the Community.

Despite repeated orders from the Inter-American Court of Human rights, the authorities have failed to take effective action to protect them, falling short of their obligations under international law.

Amnesty International is concerned that, in the absence of an effective Arms Trade Treaty, Colombia has been inundated for years with military weapons – especially small arms and light weapons (SALW) – which are often used to commit or facilitate

A policeman guards weapons confiscated from a paramilitary group during a raid in Medellín, Colombia, September 2008.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The President of Colombia should:

- Ensure that protection measures are put in place and implemented in agreement with the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó to ensure the safety of its members.
- Investigate the killings, sexual abuses, threats and enforced disappearances of Peace Community members, publish the results and bring those responsible to justice.
- Take action to dismantle paramilitary groups that continue to operate in the area of San José de Apartadó and break their links with the security forces.

serious violations of human rights and war crimes.

Amnesty International is also concerned that, until the Colombian authorities fully implement UN human rights recommendations, there can be no guarantee that arms transfers to Colombia will not exacerbate its human rights crisis. The absence of such a guarantee will deter the authorities from acting decisively to dismantle paramilitary groups and break their links with the security forces.

MAIN ARMS SUPPLIERS TO COLOMBIA

Colombia has a profitable, self-sufficient military industry organized under the Industria Militar (INDUMIL). However, it has imported large quantities of military weapons, revolvers and pistols, and munitions from several countries.

According to UN trade data, between 2007 and 2010 Colombia imported nearly US\$300 million worth of military weapons from countries including the USA, Israel, Italy, France, Turkey, Spain and the UK.

Nearly US\$17 million worth of pistols and revolvers have come from countries including USA, Israel, Turkey, Czech Republic and Germany. Almost US\$260 million worth of munitions have come from countries including Israel, South Africa, USA, Brazil, Republic of Korea, Turkey and Italy.

According to the Colombian authorities, between 2007 and 2010, only US\$1 million worth of civilian firearms were imported. However, export data from supplier countries indicates that US\$20 million worth of civilian firearms were exported to Colombia in the same period, of which US\$11 million worth were imported from the USA and US\$8 million from Israel.

The U.S. Department of State continues to provide the Colombian security forces with military aid and training. By the end of 2011, the USA had allocated US\$345 million for the Colombian security forces, of which US\$50 million were designated for the armed forces, 30 per cent of which was conditional on the Colombian authorities meeting certain human rights requirements. In September 2011, about US\$20 million in

security assistance funds from 2010 were released after the US authorities decided that the Colombian government had made significant progress in improving Colombia's human rights situation.

On 1 September 2009, the U.S. Department of Defense awarded a three-year US\$353 million contract for 9mm Sig Sauer pistols and spare parts, of which US\$46 million (or 99,261 9mm pistols and spare parts) are destined for Colombia through a Foreign Military Sales agreement. The pistols were due to be delivered between July 2009 and May 2012.

In general, illicit market shipments of small arms and light weapons to Colombia are small, but they happen frequently. Illicit supplies of such arms to the paramilitaries and guerrilla groups in Colombia enter the country through neighbouring states. Both paramilitary and guerrilla groups have also tried clandestinely to procure small arms and light weapons directly on the international market through arms brokering and trafficking networks.



Left: Injured journalist Manolis Kypreos describes to members of the press the moment when a police officer allegedly threw a stun grenade in front of him. Athens, Greece, June 2011.



GREECE JOURNALIST INJURED BY POLICE STUN GRENADE

MANOLIS KYPREOS

On 15 June 2011, journalist Manolis Kypreos' hearing was permanently damaged when a police officer threw a stun grenade in front of him.

Numerous protests have taken place in Athens and other major Greek cities during 2011 against austerity measures being introduced by the government. Manolis was doing his job reporting on the protests in Athens when he witnessed police spraying chemicals at peaceful protesters, throwing stun grenades at them and beating them with police batons near Syntagma Square. The police told him to stop taking photos. Manolis produced his journalist accreditation but the head of the riot police unit swore at him and pointed him out to another officer who then threw a stun grenade. The explosion, approximately 50cm from Manolis, knocked him to the ground. After demonstrators helped him to his feet again, he realized that he could not hear.

Surgery may help Manolis regain some hearing in one ear but his second ear is permanently damaged. A criminal and a disciplinary investigation have been opened by the Greek authorities regarding his case. He has also filed a lawsuit asking for compensation and reparations from the Greek state.

Amnesty International has documented several cases of excessive use of force by the police and excessive use of chemicals and tear gas during the recent demonstrations in Greece. The Public Prosecutor of the Athens First Instance Courts is currently undertaking criminal investigations into the allegations of excessive use of force, including with tear gas, by the police during the 15, 28 and 29 June demonstrations. A Greek member of parliament has asked the government to clarify the health impacts of the use of tear gas by the police.

Amnesty International has long-standing concerns about policing in Greece, including a culture of impunity that prevails among law enforcement officials, excessive use of force against protesters

and ill-treatment of individuals in custody. Yet, without legally binding human rights criteria under an Arms Trade Treaty, police weapons and munitions have been continually supplied to Greece by foreign companies.

“I truly hope I am the last victim of police violence. In democratic societies, problems can't be solved with violence but through dialogue.”

Manolis Kypreos at a Press conference, 12 July 2011

Protesters clash with riot police outside the Greek Parliament during a demonstration by the Panhellenic Federation of Workers Association (POE-OTA) in May 2011. The union was protesting against an increase in working hours for civil servants.



Financial year	Amount US\$
2000	18,596
2002	5,025
2004	4,125
2007	27,070
2008	55,250
2009	55,561
2010	103,137

The export of riot control agents (including tear gas) from the USA to Greece increased significantly between 2000 and 2010.

MAIN POLICE ARMS SUPPLIERS TO GREECE

According to evidence gathered by Amnesty International during the June 2011 protests, the stun grenades and tear gas canisters recovered in Syntagma square a day after the 29 June demonstration were made in Brazil, Germany, UK and USA. These included:

- GL-311 tear gas grenade, made by Condor Tecnologias Não Letais in Brazil.
- 2-bang “sound and flash” device by German company Nico Pyrotechnik in October 2001.
- N591 Stun Grenade, made by the UK-based company Chemring;
- Tear Ball Multi Effect Grenade and the 8230 Tactical Grenade – both made by US manufacturer Combined Tactical Systems; and the 555 CS grenade made by US company Federal Laboratories.

It is not known when the grenades used by police in June were transferred to Greece. The Brazilian GL-311 tear gas grenade had a manufacturing date of September 2010 but Brazil does not publish an annual report on its arms exports.

According to EU annual reports on arms exports, Germany has licensed ammunition exports to Greece annually since 2003 and US\$1,121,330 worth of toxic agents between 2003 and 2005, including riot control agents such as tear gas.

In 2010, according to government data, the UK authorized an open export licence, which can last between two and five years, allowing multiple shipments for a range of policing equipment to Greece. This included CS hand grenades, stun grenades, tear gas and other riot control agents. The UK also licensed stun grenades to Greece in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2008. Since 2000, the UK authorities periodically authorized open licences for a company selling a variety of stun, smoke and tear gas ammunition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Greek Minister of Justice and Greek Minister of Citizens' Protection should ensure that:

- The criminal and disciplinary investigations into the injury and ill-treatment of Manolis Kypreos are prompt, independent, thorough and effective.
- The police officers responsible for his injury and ill-treatment are brought to justice, and disciplinary measures are brought against them.
- Manolis Kypreos is provided with compensation which takes full account of the consequences of his loss of hearing.



Riot police use tear gas to break up protests in Syntagma square in Athens, Greece, June 2011.

ARMS TRADE TREATY RECOMMENDATIONS

Each of the examples described above demonstrate how a wide range of weaponry, munitions and related equipment have been used by police, security and military forces and armed groups to facilitate or commit serious violations of human rights and war crimes. They underscore the urgent need for rigorous risk assessments of all proposed arms exports under an Arms Trade Treaty to combat the poorly regulated international transfer of conventional arms and help end the devastation that the misuse of such weapons inflicts on civilian lives.

The Treaty must include strong human rights parameters

States must ensure that an international transfer of conventional arms will not be permitted where there is substantial risk that those arms are likely to be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international human rights law or international humanitarian law. An effective rigorous assessment of each arms transfer licence application must first be undertaken to determine the risk.

The Treaty must apply to all types and components of conventional arms

States must define the scope of conventional arms to include all weaponry, munitions,

armaments and related articles used for potentially lethal force in military and law enforcement operations, as well as any parts, components, accessories, machines, technologies and technical expertise for making, developing and maintaining those articles.

Implementation of the Treaty must be robust and enforceable

States should agree standards for full, clear implementation of the Treaty, including national authorization and licensing systems, and criminal and administrative sanctions supported by public reporting and transparency, as well as an effective mechanism to monitor compliance.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 3 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

Index: ACT 30/001/2012
English

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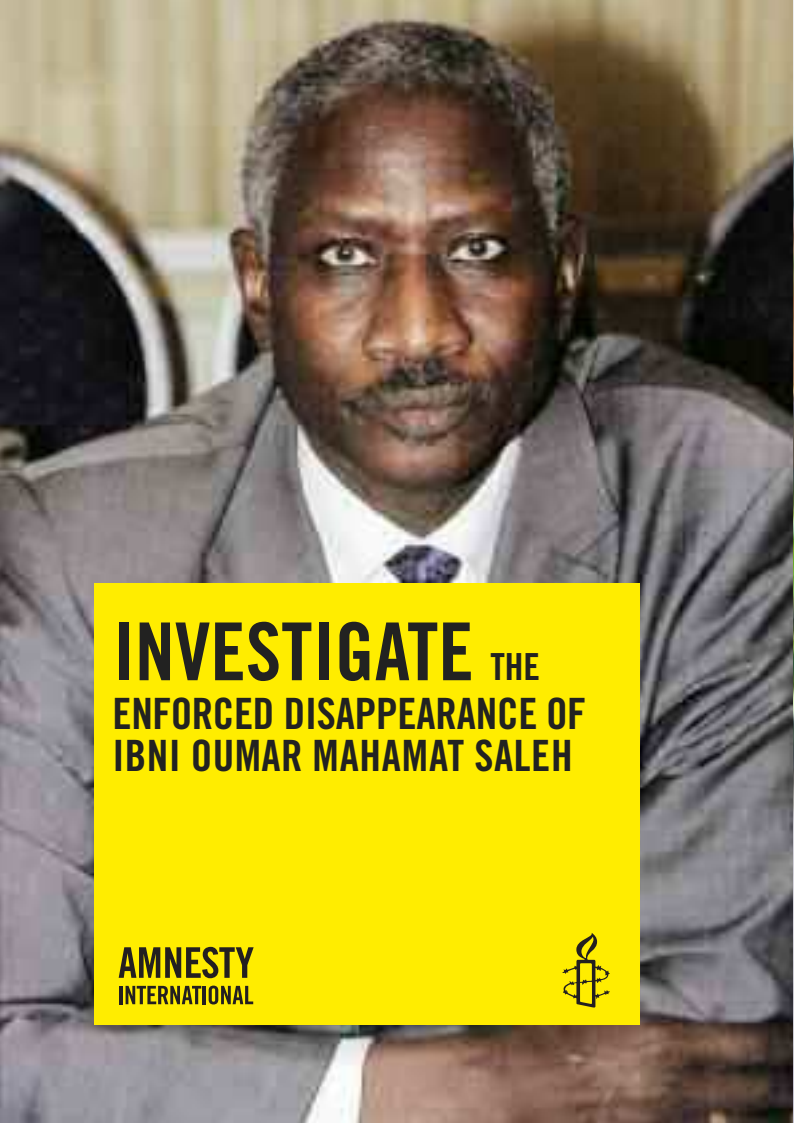
PROTECT
 THE SAN JOSÉ DE APARTADÓ
 PEACE COMMUNITY

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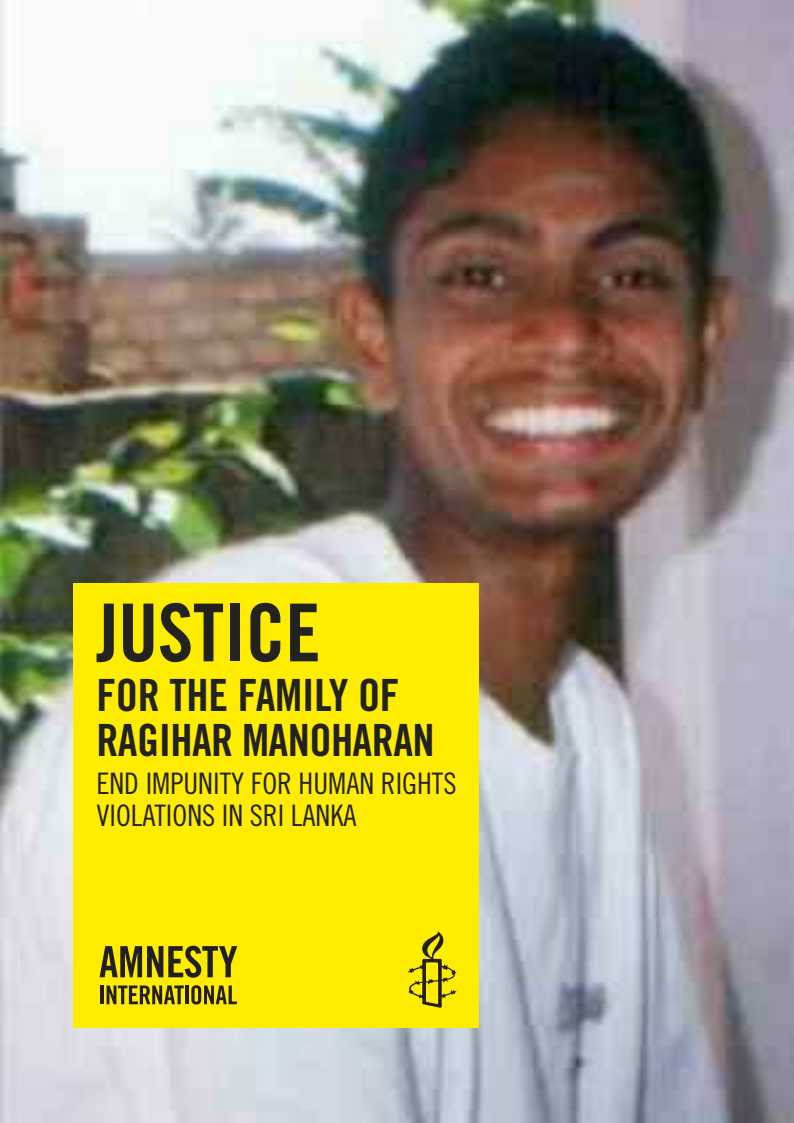
JUSTICE FOR
 GREEK JOURNALIST
 MANOLIS KYPREOS

AMNESTY
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INVESTIGATE THE
 ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE OF
 IBNI OUMAR MAHAMAT SALEH

AMNESTY
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JUSTICE
 FOR THE FAMILY OF
 RAGIHAR MANOHARAN
 END IMPUNITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
 VIOLATIONS IN SRI LANKA

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Dear President Santos,

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights first ordered the Colombian authorities to protect the San José de Apartadó Peace Community from Colombia's armed conflict in November 2000. This order has been restated on several occasions, most recently in August 2010. However, no effective action has yet been taken to implement the Court's orders.

I urge you to:

- Ensure that the protection measures agreed by the Peace Community are fully implemented;
- Ensure that all human rights abuses against members of the Community are investigated and those responsible brought to justice;
- Take action to dismantle paramilitary groups that continue to operate in the area and break their links with the security forces;
- Publicly recognize the right of civilians – including members of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community – not to be drawn into Colombia's armed conflict.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Country: _____

Index: AMR 23/001/2012 English

**Señor Presidente Juan Manuel Santos
Presidente de la República de Colombia
Palacio de Nariño
Carrera 8, No. 7-26
Bogotá
Colombia**

Image: Children of the Peace Community San José de Apartadó, Colombia.
© Private
Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House,
1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom.
amnesty.org



Your Excellency,

Political opposition leader and spokesperson Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh was arrested at his home in N'Djaména on 3 February 2008 by members of the Chadian security forces. As with more than 20 other cases of Chadian high-ranking officers and civilians arrested by security forces in April 2006 and November 2007, his family have not seen or heard from him since.

I urge you to:

- Immediately disclose the fate and whereabouts of Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh and other cases of enforced disappearance, and promptly inform the families and legal representatives;
- Initiate an independent and impartial investigation into the enforced disappearance of Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh and those who disappeared in April 2006 and November 2007, and bring those responsible to justice.

Yours sincerely,

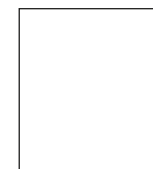
Name: _____

Country: _____

Index: AFR 20/001/20012 English

**H.E. Idriss Déby Itno
President of Chad
Présidence de la République
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N'Djamena
Chad**

Image: Ibni Oumar Mahamat Saleh © Private
Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House,
1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom.
amnesty.org



Dear Minister,

On 15 June 2011, a police officer threw a stun grenade in front of journalist Manolis Kypreos, permanently damaging his hearing. At the time, he was in Athens reporting on protests against austerity measures. I call on you to ensure that:

- There is a prompt, independent, thorough and effective investigation into Manolis Kypreos' case, and that the police officer responsible is brought to justice;
- Manolis Kypreos is awarded compensation which takes full account of the consequences of his loss of hearing;
- Future policing of demonstrations complies with international law enforcement standards and that police do not use stun grenades, tear gas and other chemicals against peaceful protesters in violation of these standards.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Country: _____

Index: EUR 25/001/2012 English

**Mr Christos Papoutsis
Minister of Citizens' Protection
Ministry of Citizens' Protection
4 P. Kanellopoulou Street
10177 Athens
Greece**

Image: Injured journalist Manolis Kypreos describes his story at a press conference. © Orestis Panagiotou-Athens press agency
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1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom.
amnesty.org



Your Excellency,

The end of Sri Lanka's armed conflict in 2009 has brought a historic opportunity to address past human rights violations and end impunity for these crimes. The victims of abuses committed during Sri Lanka's armed conflict, and their families, deserve truth, justice and reparations.

The family of 20-year-old student Ragihar Manoharan deserve justice and to know the truth about what happened to their son. I urge you to:

- Publish the report of the commission of inquiry established in November 2006, which examined the killing of Ragihar Manoharan;
- Ensure that genuine investigations are carried out into this and other human rights violations in Sri Lanka;
- Extend invitations to the special procedures of the UN Human Rights Council, including the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Country: _____

Index: ASA 37/001/2012 English

**President Mahinda Rajapaksa
Presidential Secretariat
Colombo 1
Sri Lanka**

Image: Ragihar Manoharan © Private
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