

Civil Society of The Americas: The Mexican Government should commit itself with social justice in order to be considered an Open Government

- 53 days have passed since the enforced disappearance of 43 young Mexican students and the extrajudicial killing of three others.
- Mexico has recently been appointed Head of the Open Government Partnership and, as such, it ought to guarantee a real environment of confidence and co-creation with civil society, only in this way it will be able to act as an example for other countries.
- The civil society of the Americas demands the government of Mexico to be accountable for the events that occurred in the state of Guerrero and to guarantee an effective search that encompasses life, truth, justice, mending and non-recurrence.

San José, Costa Rica, November 18th, 2014.- The Open Government Partnership (OGP) aims to build a new relationship between government and society by enhancing government accountability and ensuring an effective citizen participation within public life.

Mexico is one of the eight founding members of OGP. Since its creation on September 2011, several civil organizations, the body responsible for information access as well as the federal government, have all voiced their interest into transforming this Alliance into a true platform for dialogue and collaboration in order to expand the principles of Open Government. In Mexico, however, these principles are held within an environment that showcases a structural crisis that transcends events, politicians, parties, powers and government areas.

The extrajudicial killings of 22 individuals at the municipality of Tlatlaya, State of Mexico, at the end of June of this year; the enforced disappearance of 43 students from the Ayotzinapa Rural School and the execution of 3 more, occurred at Guerrero in September of the current year; the more than 22 thousand individuals that have been disappeared as well as the plethora of legal and semi-legal procedures to restrict the civil spaces for dissenting voices, all make evident the insecurity and violence crisis happening in this country, while also showcasing the urgent need for the Mexican Government to inform in a truthful, timely and sound manner, while also being accountable in order to generate confidence in society.

As head of this Alliance, Mexico ought to become an example for the rest of the countries and guarantee a truthful dialogue amongst government, its powers and society. The current showdown within members prevents the country from becoming a guide and fulfilling the objectives of the said initiative. Thus, civil organizations, scholars, activists, programmers and developers from Mexico and the rest of the Americas stand in solidarity with the families of the missing youngsters as well as Mexican society and demand the Mexican government to show a true commitment with open government.

We are not indifferent to this painful context and we therefore stand in solidarity with the victims' families and with the Mexican society that has suffered years from an absent rule of law

Outrage and pain will not defeat us. It is time for the State to know that we shall not tolerate any more simulations. Mexico needs a profound change.

The civil society from Mexico and 18 countries demand, within the framework of the Open Government Partnership Regional Meeting for the Americas, that the Mexican Government should be held accountable and guarantee a true rule of law. We demand a search that encompasses life, truth, justice and healing for the victims. It is essential to know the latter's whereabouts, the events, the stakeholders involved and the sanctions that they are deserving of, the actions or omissions of the State that enabled these events as well as the deeds that will guarantee that this will never occur once again.

Ayotzinapa, never again!

Organizations

1. Artículo 19, Capítulo para México y Centroamérica. México.
2. Centro de Investigación para el Desarrollo A.C. (CIDAC). México.
3. Cultura Ecológica. México.
4. Fundar, Centro de Análisis e Investigación. México.
5. Gestión Social y Cooperación (GESOC). México.
6. Instituto Mexicano para la Competitividad (IMCO). México.
7. Social TIC. México
8. Transparencia Mexicana. México.
9. Centro de Contraloría Social y Estudios para la Construcción Democrática. México.
10. Codeando. México.
11. Sonora Ciudadana. México.
12. Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ASIG). Argentina.
13. Asociación por los Derechos Civiles. Argentina.
14. Directorio Legislativo. Argentina.
15. Asociación Nacional de la Prensa. Bolivia.
16. Chile Transparente. Chile.
17. Fundación Ciudadano Inteligente. Chile.
18. Fundación Multitudes. Chile.
19. Pro Acceso. Chile.
20. Foro Nacional por Colombia. Colombia.
21. Transparencia por Colombia. Colombia.
22. Colectivo por los Derechos Digitales. Costa Rica.
23. Estudio Manati. Costa Rica.

24. Fundación Acceso. Costa Rica.
25. Instituto de Prensa y Libertad de Expresión. Costa Rica.
26. Red Calm. Costa Rica.
27. Red de Control Ciudadano. Costa Rica.
28. Proyecto Accesa. Costa Rica.
29. Fundamedios. Ecuador.
30. Datos El Salvador. El Salvador.
31. Acción Ciudadana. Guatemala.
32. Doses, Guatemala.
33. Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa. Honduras.
34. C-Libre. Honduras.
35. Fundación Democracia sin Fronteras. Honduras.
36. Fundación Violeta Chamorro. Nicaragua.
37. TI Panamá. Panamá
38. Instituto de Derecho y Economía Ambiental. Paraguay.
39. DAR. Perú.
40. Open Data Perú. Perú.
41. Grupo Propuesta Ciudadana. Perú.
42. Espacios Abiertos. Puerto Rico.
43. Fundación Justicia y Transparencia de la República Dominicana.
44. Centro de Archivos y acceso a la información Pública (CAinfo). Uruguay.
45. DATA. Uruguay.
46. Red Uy. Uruguay.
47. Espacio Público. Venezuela.
48. Transparencia Venezuela. Venezuela.

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