

## The Voice of the President

### Human Rights on Migration

Migration can be seen as part of a process in which the individual aspires to find a better future for themselves and above all, search for happiness. These are the principal motivations for those who decide to move or change country looking for new opportunities.

The causes can be linked with the wholly justifiable hope to better personal conditions and as a result, their life projections, but also the social, economic and political problems which encourage an outward flow of population.

Those which feel obliged to migrate are often victims

of crime, amongst which: abduction, threats on life or acts of discrimination within the national territory, but



also in Central American nations. They might also suffer the existence of xenophobic laws in the United States of America – something which has led many activists to speak out against their lack of compliance with the protection of human rights.

There is a clear necessity to articulate policy not just within the national territory,

but also in conjunction with neighboring countries and above all, with those that share these problems, with the aim of guaranteeing the rights of migrants to public security, liberty, integrity, justice and life.

We should recognize the important advances that have been made in the legislative field, for example: the constitutional reform in the field of human rights and the Migration Law – instruments which without doubt will help orientate attention toward migrants.

<http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/editoriales/54046.html>

## Event of the month

### Continental effort in defense of migrants

Raúl Plascencia Villanueva meets with the Special Rapporteur on Migrant Workers and their Families of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (CIDH).



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



**SUPPORT FOR MIGRANTS, WITHOUT DISTINCTION**

**CGCP/187/11**

*1<sup>st</sup> August 2011*

Upon receiving the participants of the Caravan: "Step by step to peace", the President of the CNDH, Raúl Plascencia Villanueva stated that the Organization aims to offer help to migrants without distinction, fighting to keep them from suffering the abuse of power and the omissions of public servants.

He also signaled that the migratory problem does

not concern official figures, but realities and those who cross its path, the likes of which makes the journey that these people make every day particularly vulnerable.

In front of more than 300 representatives from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala, Plascencia Villanueva thanked the civil defenders for making people aware of the problem and for providing valuable documentation on this phenomenon.

Amongst those present at the meeting were Alejandro Solalinde Guerra, Director of the shelter "Hermanos en el Camino", at Ixtepec, Oaxaca; Heyman Vázquez Medina, Director of "Hogar de la Misericordia" refuge, at Arriaga, Chiapas; Rubén Figueroa, Martha Sánchez, Luis Nieto and representatives of the Mesoamerican Migrant Movement (Movimiento Migrante Mesoamericano).

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**CONTINENTAL MOVEMENT IN DEFENCE OF THE MIGRANT**

**CGCP/188/11**

*2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011*

The President of the CNDH, Raúl Plascencia Villanueva today met with the Special Rapporteur for Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (CIDH), Felipe González. They spoke about the problems currently facing migrants and the actions carried out by the National Commission in defense of human rights.

They discussed the growing risk of extortion and the vulnerability to which such individuals are exposed as a result of criminal activity and certain abuses incurred by some authorities.

Murder, kidnap and the violation of the human rights of migrants constitute an affront for society mentioned Raúl Plascencia Villanueva.

During the work reunion Plascencia Villanueva

handed to the visitor the Special Report on the Abduction of Migrants in México – a study which documents 214 cases of the mass abduction of migrants between the months of April and September 2010, with 11 thousand 333 victims.

For his part, Felipe González spoke of his agreement with Plascencia Villanueva to carry out a continental movement in the protection of migrants.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



**INDIVIDUALS FROM MORE THAN 115 COUNTRIES VISIT THE CNDH WEBSITE**

**CGCP/189/11**

*3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has redesigned its website in order to facilitate access of information and the services offered by the Organization.

For the renovation of its site, the CNDH considered the functionality, engineering and accessibility in accordance with

international standards such as the so called "text resize" which enables the visually impaired to increase the size of the text.

The site features image viewers, audio, video, charts and documents where one can view speeches, programs, reports, recommendations, studies and other diverse work on human rights. In addition, visitors can also access press releases, photo-

graphs, summits, contests, forums, workshops and courses that the National Commission organizes to promote respect for Human Rights.

The website of the National Organization offers easy access to the institution's regulations, its structure, and how one can register a complaint.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## INDIGENOUS RIGHTS – ISSUE OF PRIME IMPORTANCE

### CGCP/190/11

5<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Raúl Plascencia Villanueva, President of the CNDH, established the necessity to combat all forms of discrimination, marginalization and exclusion suffered by indigenous persons in our country. He mentioned that it was fundamental to create public policy where the three levels of government assumed a commitment to respect and protect human rights, strengthening their quality of life, health, food, education and work.

Through his participation at the Forum *The Effective Exercise of the Human Rights of Indigenous People Through Their Uses and Customs*, the National Ombudsman commented that Mexico is an



example of social and cultural diversity seen through its 62 indigenous groups, but that such communities represent

one of the most vulnerable and forgotten sectors. The backlog of problems makes us realize that attention directed towards these communities on behalf of the Mexican State hasn't been totally effective he added. In the case of indigenous women, "it is essential to signal that violations and abuses of their physical and moral integrity will not be permitted and that simply by belonging to such ethnic groups, such individuals find themselves to be more vulnerable".

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## SUPPORT FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE TEC DE MONTERREY

### CGCP/191/11

8<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Protected by the faculty afforded to them by law, the National Commission of Human Rights registered an official complaint relating to the case of the explosion which occurred at the installations of the Tecnológico de Monterrey (University), State of Mexico campus.

Besides this, in coordination

with the State of Mexico Commission of Human Rights, it will keep abreast of all action taken by the authorities to solve the case and will ensure that they correctly attend to the victims in accordance with the terms established by the Constitution of the United States of Mexico and the international standards in the field. Under instruction from Raúl Plascencia Villanueva, President of the CNDH, visitors working with

the Organization went to the hospital where the victims were interned in order to offer legal guidance and counseling. The National Commission of Human Rights will keep up to date with all developments, releasing its findings in accordance with the relative law.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## SUPPORT AND RESPECT FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

### CGCP/192/11

9<sup>th</sup> August 2011

In cultivating a greater understanding of human rights among the more than 62 distinct indigenous groups of our country, we will help eradicate the problems facing the same.

In the framework of the commemoration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People this 9<sup>th</sup> of August, the CNDH stated

that the improvement of the quality of life of such people is a commitment held by all.

According to official statistics, 79.6 percent of the population speaking an indigenous language – some 5.4 million people, lives in a situation of poverty. Of those people, three million suffer from extreme poverty. The setbacks suffered in health, access to proper housing, social security, education and employment constitute a great risk to the violation of their human rights.

In the first six months of this year, personnel of the CNDH have visited 90 indigenous communities realizing 249 activities consisting in talks, workshops and conferences to make people aware of their rights established as much in the Constitution as by different international instruments, stimulating the creation of material relating to human rights in different indigenous languages.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**WORK MEETING CNDH-IMSS**

**CGCP/193/11**

*9<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

Members of the Advisory Board of the National Commission of Human Rights met with the director general of the Mexican Institute of Social Security, Daniel Karam.

The meeting was chaired by the President of the CNDH Raúl Plascencia Villanueva and provided the framework for discus-

sion on the protection of human rights associated with the day to day management of the IMSS.

On this matter, Karam stressed the commitment of Social Security to follow up and remain fully transparent in any case related to the area of health made aware to the CNDH.

For his part, Plascencia Villanueva welcomed the openness shown

by the institution to receive and attend recommendations issued by the Commission.

The members of the Advisory Board made their concerns relating to the Institution's operations heard, particularly those relating to child care service.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



**HUMAN RIGHTS INDICATORS ADDRESSED**

**CGCP/194/11**

*10<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

Indicators in human rights and similar matters elaborated by the CNDH are to be incorporated in to the National System of Statistical and Geographical Information (SNIEG), clearly reflecting the situation currently being lived in Mexico in relation to this matter – informed Raúl Plascencia Villanueva.

In a work meeting with Eduardo Sojo Garza-

Aldape, President of the Board of Governors and Director of the National Institute of Geography, Statistics and Informatics (INEGI) on which the SNIEG depends, the National Ombudsman highlighted the importance of the CNDH having been incorporated in to this statistical register.

Through this system, society and State will have access to quality, pertinent, accurate and timely information which will help

contribute to national development under the principles of transparency, objectivity and independence.

It will make it possible for society to have access to objective information, to serve as a base to take decisions which will allow for the consolidation of a culture of human rights in Mexico.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**INVESTIGATION BEGUN IN TO THE CASE OF GRETTEL RODRÍGUEZ**

**CGCP/195/11**

*10<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights began its investigation in to the complaint registered by young Grettel Rodríguez Almeida, victim of numerous aggressive acts suffered at the hand of her ex-boyfriend who, according to the victim, put at risk her physical integrity and even her life.

She showed her dismay at

the aggressor's release from prison one year and eight months after the events took place without an adequate evaluation of evidence, condemning the actions of the authorities who attended his case; she considers that the administration and enforcement of justice were inadequate.

Upon finding out about this case, the President Raúl Plascencia Villanueva instructed personnel

to contact the victim immediately in order to offer her the counseling and legal guidance necessitated by this case.

The commission reaffirms its commitment to victims of crime, making clear the urgent need for authorities to ensure efficient access to the Mexican justice system, with the aim of ensuring that actions of this nature don't go unpunished.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## GUIDANCE FOR YOUTH ON RIGHTS AND DUTIES

### CGCP/196/11

1<sup>st</sup> August 2011

In the framework of the International Youth Day commemorated on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August, the National Commission of Human Rights will actively work in the promotion and spreading of human rights.

Through the Program of the Defense and Protection of the Human Rights of Youth, the Commission is organizing in public middle and high schools across the country numerous activities such as the

“cine-debate”, through which matters of interest for young people will be examined, offering information on the existing institutions which offer support. According to official figures, in Mexico there are more than 29 million people between the ages of 15 and 29 requiring information on their rights.

To that end, the CNDH is undertaking a National Campaign to Tackle and Eliminate Violence in Schools; and alongside this, for the Right of Young People to Live a Life

Free of Violence in general.

Such campaigns contain information about Public and Private Institutions which offer help for young people with the aim of avoiding situations which threaten their integrity such as addictions.

The recently approved constitutional reform in the field of human rights establishes the obligation to incorporate the teaching of human rights in to the country's educational systems.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## FORCED ENTRY AT PRIVATE HOMES INVESTIGATED

### CGCP/197/11

12<sup>th</sup> August 2011

The National Commission of Human Rights registered an official complaint relating to the families who on the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> of August were the victims of affronts committed against them by personnel of the State of Mexico District Attorney.

Said personnel, upon carrying out operations, forced entry

in to private property without having presented the corresponding warrant.

Given the current levels of insecurity that we are living, the CNDH feels that the prosecution of crime and the safeguarding of public security are fundamental in restoring public order and tranquility.

There is no justification however to that end in such activities which only put at risk the rights of individuals.

Today in the Official Journal of the Federation, General Recommendation No. 19 was published, treating the practice of illegal searches, where it has become clear that such conduct has become common practice across the nation.

From 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2011, more than 3,700 complaints relating to the violation of human rights as a result of such searches were registered.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## MIGRANT CASE INVESTIGATED

### CGCP/198/11

13<sup>th</sup> August 2011

The National Commission of Human Rights opened a complaint file to investigate the case of a 19 year old Guatemalan migrant, found deceased in Tultitlán in the State of Mexico.

Visiting workers were sent to the scene with the aim of collecting information and witness statements for the corresponding investigation.

The situation facing migrants represents one of the principal themes on the National Organization's agenda, which is working to prevent victims of crime being revictimised by the abuse of power and indolence of public servants.

It is necessary that authorities of the three orders of government implement coordinated actions which prevent aggression towards these individuals, offering them the corresponding attention and respect

for their human rights, irrespective of their migratory status.

The CNDH will remain informed of this and any other action which threatens the human rights of migrants, in order to effectively follow-up investigations and issue resolutions which fit with the corresponding law.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**ILLEGAL SEARCHES INTOLERABLE**

**CGCP/199/11**

*14<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

For the CNDH illegal searches are an intolerable practice which undermine the human rights of the population and weaken the law of the State.

With the aim that the authorities modify their actions in the function of the investigation and persecution of crime within the constitutional frame-

work, guaranteeing the respect of human rights, the CNDH has issued the General Recommendation No. 19 on the Practice of Illegal Searches.

It demands that practices whose nature contravenes the provisions of the Constitution of the United States of Mexico and international instruments are immediately eliminated.

The Recommendation

has been directed at the secretaries of the Interior, Defense, Navy, Public Security, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, the Office of the Attorney General of Military Justice, of the state governments and of the Federal District, of the secretariats of public security and the state district attorneys.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**VICTIMS ATTENDED TO IN THE STATE OF VERACRUZ**

**CGCP/200/11**

*15<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has registered an official complaint as a result of the events which occurred in the Port of Veracruz last Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> of August.

Regrettably one individual lost their life and three were left injured – two of whom were minors.

Personnel working for the

CNDH Attention Program for the Victims of Crime traveled to the city immediately after with the aim of contacting the victims and their families to provide victimology care consistent with legal guidance, counseling and support.

For the CNDH the levels of insecurity currently facing the country oblige public servants working in law and law enforcement on the one hand to prevent victimization

but on the other to offer support to any individual who falls victims of crime.

The National Commission will work alongside its counterparts throughout the states in order to aid them, reiterating its commitment to the defense and protection of human rights.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**COORDINATION OF ACTIONS IN FAVOR OF VICTIMS**

**CGCP/201/11**

*16<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights in response to the official complaint made against the actions which took place in the port of Veracruz, has been in contact with the Commission of Human Rights of the same state since first hear-

ing of these events, in order to coordinate the work of both institutions in supporting the victims of these tragic happenings.

It has achieved direct contact with the director at the Regional Hospital as well as the District Attorney of Justice for the state, with the aim of protecting the integrity and rights of the victims.

Raúl Plascencia Villanueva – President of the National Organization and Luis Fernando Perera Escamilla – Ombudsman of the state, have signaled that they will work together in a coordinated manner in order to follow-up on the case and remain abreast of all actions carried out by the authorities for victims of crime.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## TRAINING IN DISABILITY

### CGCP/202/11

17<sup>th</sup> August 2011

The National Commission of Human Rights and the Santa Catarina Technological University of Nuevo Leon have introduced the Higher Technical Degree for Attention for Disabilities – a degree program to be offered by this higher education institution from January 2012.

As a result of this joint effort, the promotion and defense of the human rights of disabled people will be boosted.

It will form professionals with the necessary training to attend, guide and support such individuals in their own development, with educational opportunities and comprehensive performance conditions.

On behalf of the National Om-

budsman Raúl Plascencia Villanueva, the First Inspector General of the CNDH, Luis Garcia Lopez-Guerrero made the presentation, indicating that this degree represents just the beginning of a big effort to generate equality of opportunity for more than 10 million disabled people in the country.



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## ABUSE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE INVESTIGATED

### CGCP/203/11

18<sup>th</sup> August 2011

The National Commission of Human Rights has registered an official complaint relating to the cases of the abduction of women in indigenous towns and communities across our country such as the Mixteca Alta in Oaxaca, where it is alleged that young girls have been sold by their parents.

The public and autonomous Organization is carrying out investigations to discover the situation in these regions.

It would appear that the ancestral custom of selling young girls once they reach 11 years old and up until they turn 15 is still in practice.

The National Organization marks its respect for the autonomy of indigenous towns and communities, as long as they abide by the provisions of the Constitution of the United States of Mexico in the field of human rights.

Mechanisms are required which aid the attention and protection of indigenous women

who make up one of the most vulnerable and least well served in the country.

Alongside customs, the defense and backing of the human rights of indigenous women is of vital importance – with the respect for their dignity, culture and liberty as its backbone. Once the complaint has been integrated, the CNDH will issue its determination in accordance with the corresponding law.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## PREVENT THE EXPLOITATION OF CHILD LABOR

### CGCP/204/11

19<sup>th</sup> August 2011

At this moment, according to official figures, there are around 850 thousand minors between the age of 5 and 14 years old, engaged in some form of employment.

Our legal framework explicitly prohibits the employment of any minor under the age of 14.

The CNDH, through its

“National Campaign for the Discourage of Child Labor, Child Labor Isn’t Acceptable!” carries out numerous actions aimed at protecting the fundamental rights of children and adolescents.

With worrying frequency, minors are integrated in to the labor market without the necessary protection for the operation of machinery or the use of tools, the disposal of hazardous waste and contact with chemicals such as those used

in agriculture. The Convention on the Child’s Rights – ratified by Mexico in 1990 – establishes the nation’s obligation to adopt legislative measures in order to protect against economic exploitation, or dangerous work or work which might affect their education.



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**SUPPORT OFFERED IN TORREÓN CASE****CGCP/205/11***21<sup>st</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights opened an official file of victimology attention as a result of the events which occurred during a football match in Torreón, Coahuila.

Personnel from the CNDH office of the same city were given the task of identify-

ing victims and affronted individuals with the aim offering them, where necessary, urgent medical and psychological attention, legal guidance and support.

For the National Commission the levels of insecurity currently facing the country oblige public servants working in law and law enforcement to carry out preventative action to protect society and prevent

any violent act which might threaten them.

The CNDH will follow the actions of the relevant authorities closely, making sure that they effectively support those affected.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**URGENT NEED FOR CARE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING****CGCP/206/11***22<sup>nd</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has expressed the urgent need to join efforts to implement a coordinated action between the three orders of government, in collaboration with civil society to detect and attend to victims of the trafficking of people.

In the framework of the International Day for the

Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition, commemorated on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, the CNDH considers it necessary to offer assistance through prevention, training and protection.

According to official statistics, across the World there are some 2.4 million people who fall victims to this crime. So far this year more than 8 thousand people have been trained. In the area of protection,

the organization has closely followed the actions of the authorities in order that they act at all times with absolute respect for human rights. In addition, it has offered direct legal attention to victims and their relatives as well as civil society as a whole, also providing support for the filing of complaints.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**JOURNALIST CASE IN SINALOA INVESTIGATED****CGCP/207/11***24<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

According to powers afforded by the law, the National Commission of Human Rights has opened a complaint file for the case of the journalist Humberto Millán Salazar who disappeared in Culiacán, Sinaloa.

According to the story featured in the press, armed men intercepted the victim as he drove in a vehicle

close to his home seemingly heading towards the radio station where he worked.

Affronts against media organizations and journalists not only endanger the integrity and life of those who fall victim, but also in an indirect manner, it harms society – threatening its right to information. With the case of Humberto Millán, from 2000 to date, there have been 14 abductions of jour-

nalists registered by this National Organization.

The CNDH, when possible, will issue its determination in accordance with the corresponding law. Said instrument signals the criteria which should be followed by the authorities to implement protection, definition, urgent and timely schemes with the aim of preventing crimes.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



## PRESS RELEASE SUPPORTS VICTIMS IN CIUDAD JUAREZ

**CGCP/208/11**

*24<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has opened a complaint file relating to the events which occurred close to a primary school in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, in which one individual lost their life and others were injured.

Under instruction from the President of this

National Organization – Raúl Plascencia Villanueva, personnel from the regional CNDH office acted immediately in support of the victims, with the aim of guaranteeing the protection of their human rights.

They have also made contact with relatives to help them and offer legal guidance. The CNDH will remain abreast of all developments in the investigations carried out by the authorities in clarifying

the events and the support which is offered to those affected.

As a result of these acts, the obligation held by all authorities to protect and safeguard the human rights of Mexican families is once again made clear.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## DIPLOMA IN HUMAN RIGHTS FROM THE SEMAR

**CGCP/209/11**

*25<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

Through the framework of the agreement reached between the National Commission of Human Rights and the Secretariat of the Navy, signed last March, the first diploma led by specialized personnel from the CNDH for admirals, captains and officers of the Mexican Navy has been established.

Today, the President of the National Commission,

Raúl Plascencia Villanueva and the Admiral Mariano Saynez Mendoza – graduate of the SEMAR, founded the diploma “The Armed Forces and Human Rights” in the headquarters of said secretariat.

Both leaders highlighted the priority held by respect for the fundamental rights of individuals.

Plascencia Villanueva underlined the importance of consolidating a culture of legality and full respect for human rights.

“We will continue to make important efforts in the promotion and spreading of human rights and the culture of legality through the organizing of conferences, courses, workshops and seminars across the country” - the Ombudsman stated.

The CNDH and the SEMAR plan to carry out more activities with these aims alongside Navy personnel



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS IN MONTERREY

**CGCP/210/11**

*25<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights opened the official victimology attention file relating to events which occurred at a casino in Monterrey, Nuevo León.

Raúl Plascencia Villanueva – President of the CNDH, immediately got in touch with Minerva Martínez Garza, President of the state branch

of the same commission in order to coordinate action in support of the victims, ensuring that they received the necessary medical and psychological attention, legal guidance and support.

The CNDH once more stresses that the insecurity afflicting this country obligates public servants working in law and law enforcement, to carry out preventative action which protects society and prevents their exposure to acts

of violence. It underlines the duty held by all authorities to protect and safeguard the human rights of Mexican families. The National Commission will keep track of all action taken in the due care given to those affected.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**OFFICIAL COMPLAINT FOR MINE COLLAPSE****CGCP/211/11***26<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has registered an official complaint relating to the collapse at “La Esmeralda” coal mine, located in the municipality of Sabinas, Coahuila, in which four people were left trapped.

Under instruction from Doctor Raúl Plascencia

Villanueva, President of the CNDH, personnel from the Organization went to the site to investigate the events and any possible violation of human rights.

The personnel of this institution will remain in contact with the relatives of the victims, offering them legal guidance and counseling and to ensure that they receive urgent medical attention in the event that it is required.

The National Commission reiterates that it is imperative that security regulations in all mines across the country are strictly abided by and that the authorities concerned exercise their ability to inspect and sanction in order to avoid a recurrence of these events.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**SUPPORT FOCUSED FOR VICTIMS IN MONTERREY****CGCP/212/11***28<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The attention offered to victims of crime and their relatives is a fundamental task to be carried out by personnel at the National Commission of Human Rights in the city of Monterrey, Nuevo León.

Since the first moment in which the events occurred at the Casino, specialists working for the CNDH Program of the Attention for Victims of Crime (Províctima) have been at the scene.

Four lawyers, four psychologists and two forensic doctors are heading the team from the National Commission in charge of offering attention in victimology and monitoring the status of those interned in the hospital, ensuring that they are adequately attended to.

With the aim of observing the actions taken by the authorities working on this case, CNDH personnel have been present at the scene, visited hospitals and clinics belonging to the Mexican Institute of Social Security (IMSS), of the Insti-

tute of Security and Social Services of State Workers and the Autonomous University of Nuevo León.

As such, it has been in communication with the Federal Public Ministry Agent responsible for preliminary checks with health officials, civil protection and the Office of the General Attorney of state Justice.

For the CNDH, the primary objective is to contribute to the safeguarding of the human rights of those affected.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**VISITING WORKERS IN NUEVO LEÓN****CGCP/213/11***29<sup>th</sup> August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights is supporting the victims of the recent events at the Casino in Monterrey, Nuevo León along with their relatives.

A team of ten visiting workers, medics, lawyers

and psychologists working for the *Program for the Attention to Victims of Crime* (Províctima) are operating in order to offer help to those affected.

The National Ombudsman informed that the CNDH has opened an official victimology attention file, noting that in the Monterrey case, he has coordinat-

ed with the respective state commission in support of the victims. He underlined the priority of this autonomous Organization to contribute to the safeguarding of the human rights of society.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN FOR FAMILY OF JOURNALIST

**CGCP/214/11**

30<sup>th</sup> August 2011

The National Commission of Human Rights has asked the Secretariat of the Interior to take preventative measures in order to ensure the protection of journalist Humberto Millán Salazar's family.

Humberto was found deceased on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August in Culiacán, Sinaloa. Such preventative measures are necessary

to avoid the family falling victim to violent acts difficult or impossible to recover from; guaranteeing the physical integrity and preservation of life of those concerned.

Since the 24<sup>th</sup> of August, the date in which the journalist disappeared, the CNDH has opened a complaint file to investigate the events of that day.

His family has now received threats and worry for their safety.

Following the death of Millán Salazar, 72 journalists have now been murdered since 2000.

The aggression, threats, intimidation and persecution that those working in the media suffer, both inhibits and limits freedom of expression, something which is imperative in guaranteeing the free practice of this profession.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



## CINEMATIC EVENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS

**CGCP/215/11**

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011

In order to raise awareness of the need to protect children and women from falling victim to the trafficking of people, the **Fourth International Film Festival on Human Rights It's for @ll** is taking place in Mexico City.

The event which began on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August and reaches its conclusion on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2011

was organized by the National Commission of Human Rights and Foundation Cinépolis with the participation of other social organizations.

The CNDH considers it important to take advantage of the benefits offered by the seventh art as a form of education and entertainment to spread the message of fundamental rights amongst our population.

During the festival which takes place in the Diana Cinema and the Casa del Lago,

28 feature films have been programmed along with four short films from 18 different countries.

Some of the other topics covered by the films on show are child and indigenous rights, freedom of expression, non-discrimination, health and education. As part of the event there will be discussion and reflection forums encouraging the joining of efforts in the construction of a more fair and just society.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>



## RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATE TO AID DISABLED PEOPLE

**CGCP/216/11**

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011

In Mexico, the attention offered to disabled people should be treated as a concern of the State – mentioned Raúl Plascencia Villanueva, President of the National Commission of Human Rights.

Despite legislative advances made in this area, discrimination and social prejudices still exist, obstructing the full respect of the dignity and human rights of this vulnerable group the President added.

During the exposition in the framework of the *International Congress on the Prevention of Disability in Children* which took place in the state of Quintana Roo, the National Ombudsman assured that human rights are entrenched in the Constitution and represent the minimum conditions required for harmonious living – a project of the nation.

We should continue to back and encourage the creation of public policy which respects these rights. The work place should also take them in to

account, permitting their participation in the development of the country and in education. Plascencia Villanueva referred to the collaborative agreement signed by the CNDH this year with the National Network for the Prevention of Disability (RENAPRED).

The objective of this deal is to develop activities across the nation which cultivates a culture which contributes to the bettering of the quality of life of our country's children.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/37>

**RECOMMENDATION 46/2011**

**MATTER:** The case of the Illegal Retention of V1, found interned in the Federal Center of Psychological Rehabilitation in Ayala, Morelos

**AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE:** Governor of the state of Tamaulipas, Secretariat of Federal Public Security

*1<sup>st</sup> of August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights investigated the evidence presented by the file CNDH/3/2010/3174/Q, relating to the case of V1, who at that moment was interned in the Federal Center of Psychological Rehabilitation in Ayala, Morelos.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2005, V1 was detained and put before the multiple judge of the First Instance of the Fourteenth Judicial District resident in Valle Hermoso, Tamaulipas, who in a criminal case sentenced him to 5 years imprisonment for the theft of a vehicle. This term was downgraded to 3 years and 6 months custodial sentence in 2007 by the Fourth Chamber of the

Supreme Court of that state, on a criminal file.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2008, V1 was taken from the Center of the Execution of Sanctions in Matamoros, Tamaulipas to the Federal Center of Psychological Rehabilitation in Ayala, Morelos. The second resolution was communicated to AR1 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2008, as shown by the stamped receipt found outside the office 319/2005 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of the stated month and year, signed and acknowledged by the head of the first instance judicial body.

Said receipt stated the release date of the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2008 for fulfilling the sentence imposed. AR2 however, did not order the victim's release until the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2010. For their part AR3 and AR4, responsible for the custody of V1, neglected to keep their legal situation up to date, leading to the illegal detention of V1.

The Commission notes the violation therefore of V1's human rights, particularly with reference to personal freedom, legality and legal security.

In relation to AR1, AR2, AR3 and AR4 – who held the victim for 1 year, four months and 8 days in excess of their prison sentence – according to article 41 of the Law of the National Commission of Human Rights, this Organization has found evidence citing the violation of the human rights to legality, legal security, integrity and personal security, receiving humane treatment and the safeguarding of the rights as victim of this crime as recognized by the Mexican legal order, to the detriment of V1, attributable to elements of the Federal Police Force, belonging to the Secretariat of Federal Public Security.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/32>

**RECOMMENDATION 47/2011**

**MATTER:** The case of Inadequate Medical Attention at the “Dr. Manuel Gea González” General Hospital of the Secretariat of Federal Health committed against V1

**AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE:** Secretariat of Federal Health

*24<sup>th</sup> of August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has reviewed the evidence contained within the file CNDH/1/2010/5577/Q, relating to the case of V1, of 62 years of age, who on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2010 went to the “Dr. Manuel Gea González” General Hospital of the Secretariat of Federal Health having been programmed for a hip replacement of the left hip.

AR1, a medic working for the orthopedic department, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of the same month and year carried out the procedure where AR2 from Anesthesiology was also present. Said procedure was performed without valuation from the Hematology department and without the correct study protocol operated by AR3, AR4, AR5, AR6 and AR7, despite on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2010 it being reported by numerous personnel at the hospital that the individual suffered a decrease in the number of platelets – blood dyspraxia which would have ruled this type of operation out due to the risk

of heavy bleeding. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of August then, at 19:00 hours, as the patient V1 returned to their bed after the operation, Q1 noted that the patient presented severe bruising over all their body, with their leg almost black in color, suffering from severe, unbearable pain. This situation prompted the patient to inform the nurse of these facts, to which the patient was told that there were no doctors present and that they would have to wait.

With this, the medical attention received by V1 post-operation, by some of the public servants previously mentioned, along with AR8, AR9, AR10, AR11, AR12, AR13 and AR14, doctors working for Internal Medicine, Anesthesiology and Orthopedics respectively, can be judged inadequate, as despite the severe case of anemia that the patient presented, no blood transfusion was realized despite the urgent need to do so in order to stabilize their condition.

These actions contributed to the deteriorating state of the patient who passed away on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2010. This National Organization has found evidence allowing

it to accredit the violation of the right to the protection of health and life committed against V1 by the medical personnel of the “Dr. Manuel Gea González” General Hospital of the Secretariat of Federal Health.

The Commission has released Recommendation 47/2011 as a result.



<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/32>

**RECOMMENDATION 48/2011**

**MATTER:** The Attempt on the Life of V1, in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua

**AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE:** Secretariat of Federal Public Security

*28<sup>th</sup> of August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has examined the evidence presented by the file CNDH/1/2010/6231/Q relating to the case of V1 - student at the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez, who on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 participated in the march "Walk against Death".

The participant then entered the Biomedical Sciences building at the aforementioned University, through the entrance on Plutarco Elías Calles street.

At this point, AR1, AR2, AR3, AR4, AR5, AR6, AR7, AR8, AR9, AR10, AR11 and AR12 – members of the Federal Police belonging to the Secretariat of Federal Public Security, moved to detain a number of students.

Police members AR1 and AR2 used their firearms, injuring V1 in the process.

V1 was then taken by another student and a teacher to the closest General Hospital seeking medical attention.

These acts were later published in a number of media sources, which in turn forced the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, holder of the Fourth Investigation Agency based in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, to initiate the Preliminary Investigation No.1 on that same day.

Subsequently on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2010, the aforementioned social representative of the Federation appropriated the inquiry before the Fourth District Court in the State of Chihuahua.

This same authority then on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of that same month and year, acting within the penal code No. 1, arrested AR1 and AR2 for having committed the crime of unlawful exercise of public service and abuse of power.

AR1 and AR2 then appealed, prompting the use of penal regulation number 1, before the Third Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Circuit of that state, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December that same year, which confirmed the detention of AR1 but ultimately led to the release of AR2.

This National Organization has found evidence leading it to accredit the violation of the human rights to legality and legal security, integrity and personal security, humane treatment and the safeguarding of the rights, which through their status as a victim of crime as recognized by the Mexican legal system, committed against V1, attributable to elements of the Federal Police, belonging to the Secretariat of Federal Public Security.

The Recommendation 48/2011 was issued as a result.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/32>

## RECOMMENDATION 49/2011

**MATTER:** The case of the Illegal Detention and Torture of V1 in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua

**AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE:** Secretariat of National Defense and the Governor of the state of Chihuahua

*30<sup>th</sup> of August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has examined the evidence presented by the file CNDH/2/2010/1583/Q, relating to the case of the illegal detention and torture of V1.

Said individual upon leaving their business located at Plaza Coral, in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, was detained by members of the Mexican Military upon suspicion of theft of a vehicle according to the minutes of the report of the accused and the minutes of the public ministry notification of the probable crime. Q1 and Q2 stated that they were aware of V1's whereabouts until the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2010, the day in which V1 made contact by telephone with Q2, informing them that they were going to take them to the State Social Rehabilitation Center (CERESO)

as the military personnel were connecting them with the events which occurred at the Villas de Salvárcar.

For this reason, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2010, Q1 and Q2 visited these installations at 8:30 hours at which point they made contact with V1 who warned them that they were badly injured with "bruised legs, chest and nose", and burn marks from "some kind of cigarette".

Q2 added that on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2010 at around 11:30 hours they received a call from someone claiming to be interned at the State Social Rehabilitation Center, that V1 had been taken from CERESO but that they didn't know where to, at which point Q2 they began their quest. Later on however, they received a phone call from V1 telling them that military personnel had taken them from CERESO in order to torture them and discover their home address.

V1 had only given them the address of Q1, but advised Q2 to take great care with soldiers and members of the police force.

This National Commission observes that public servants of the 7<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion of the Secretariat of National Defense, with the participation of AR3 – assistant attorney of the North Zone of Chihuahua State Attorney, AR4, Director of the State Social Rehabilitation Center in Ciudad Juárez and AR5 – an agent of the Investigative Ministerial Police, violated the human rights of integrity and personal security, legality and legal security and for abusive acts consisting in illegal detention, lack of communication, torture and the arbitrary use of force.

Recommendation 49/2011 was issued as a result.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/32>

**RECOMMENDATION 50/2011**

**MATTER:** The case of the victims of the crime of the massacre at Villas de Salvárcar which took place in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua

**AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE:** Governor of the state of Chihuahua

*3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2011*

The National Commission of Human Rights has examined the evidence presented by the file CNDH/2/2010/798/Q, relating to the case of the victims of the crime which took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2010 at the housing complex Villas de Salvárcar in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.

On this day at 23:30 and consequently 23:50 hours, a number of young people were celebrating a birthday at a residence in that complex, when an armed

commando attacked them. As a result of this attack, V1, V2, V3, V4, V5, V6, V7, V8, V9, V10, V11, V12, V13, V14 y V15, y V16, V17, V18, V19, V20, V21, V22, V23, V24 and V25 were left injured.

According to the report offered by the relatives of the victims and those living in neighboring buildings, the injured were taken to the General Hospital in private vehicles.

Following this event, personnel of the Secretariat of National Defense and the Secretariat of Public Security of Ciudad Juárez went to the scene of the crime.

Red Cross personnel also arrived at the residence to provide urgent medical attention. This National Commission warns that public servants of the Attorney General's Office and of the Chihuahua state Judiciary violated

the human rights of legal security, humane treatment, due administration of justice, along with the rights of integrity and public security, the protection of health of the victims and their relatives, for acts and omissions which violate the rights they hold as victims of crime.

The Recommendation 50/2011 was issued as a result.

<http://www.cndh.org.mx/node/32>



## Book of the month

### Youth Ombudsman proposes action

This book was created as an efficient form to help publicize the actions of the Youth Ombudsman and due to the possibilities and influence of public policy on children and youth.

Following an introduction on the topic with basic definitions on aspects of youth policy and the institution of the Ombudsman, it offers a summary of the steps taken to the creation of our country.

The authors credit public universities, international organizations and ecclesiastical institutions such as the Focolares Movement in the case of Héctor Piccicacco, in helping form and stimulate programs aimed at youth.

As input for guidance about the possibilities of their actions, the authors reflect upon diverse fields of influence of the Youth Ombudsman such as promoting governance:

"The existence of a youth advocate directly assists institutional governance and the need for inclusion as their system generates an environment in which the society committed to remedying the basic needs of disadvantaged youth groups, to ensure their participation in social life."

The rest of the content is made up of the experiences of other countries and a systematic presentation of the main legal references in Argentina: Law 26.061 and its regulatory decree, Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Child's Rights. Adolfo Pérez Esquivel's discourse upon receiving the Nobel Peace Prize is illustrative with little disclosure, despite its central religious and ethical content.

<http://www.revistacriterio.com.ar/cultura/libro-el-ombudsman-de-la-juventud-propuesta-de-accion/>

## Article of the month

### More than a symbolic celebration

The close to 370 million indigenous people of the world need and deserve more than just a simple symbolic celebration on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, the day in which the International Day devoted to the reaffirming of values and the resistance of life and indigenous cultures, will be commemorated.

Following centuries of repression, comprehensive tools are needed to defend their human rights, their way of life and their aspirations.

One of the tools without doubt, is the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Declaration, among other characteristics, emphasizes the principles of human rights, equality and the non-discrimination of indigenous people. As such, the right to self-government is established with the maintenance and strengthening of their particular political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, equally conserving their right to participation in public life.

This document especially underlines the right of indigenous communities to preserve, distribute, and freely commercialize their lands and traditional resources.

Following more than two decades of negotiations, this Declaration was adopted by the General Assembly

in September 2007 with the support of 143 Member States. This support continues to grow.

Importantly, Australia and Colombia – two countries who originally backed the text – now support the Declaration.

These advances are devoted, but we should continue making effort for the universal acceptance of this crucial document.

[http://nacionesunidas.or.cr/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=23](http://nacionesunidas.or.cr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=23)



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