

Señor Presidente Álvaro Uribe Vélez
Presidente de la República
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Dear Mr. President,

I want to draw your attention to the case of the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó in Colombia, particularly to the case of one of its executive leaders, Eduard Lanchero. I know there have been repeated threats against Eduard Lanchero for many years, and that all these charges were submitted to the Inter-American court for Human Rights in Costa Rica. For example, in 1998 a group of soldiers "promised to slice him into pieces like the cow", which they had stolen in the situation. Later, he was repeatedly detained by members of the police and he was threatened with death.

The whole case lies well-documented in the office of the Inter-American court for Human Rights. Detailed information is included in the paper, "Ethical collapse of justice" to be read here: www.cdpsanjose.org.

I am pleased that the Inter-American court for Human Rights has already made a claim for personal protection to the Colombian government. Unfortunately, this measure is not sufficient to remove the real threat. The Colombian government has offered at this time armed personal protection, armored vehicles or a "Avantel phone".

Everything would be done by the public security forces of the Colombian government or its armed security forces. On the one hand, this presents a contradiction to the fundamental ethical values of the peace community, which has committed itself not to cooperate with any of the armed groups. On the other hand, the public security forces are, for many years, responsible for massacres of members of the community of peace, so that a guard by them provides no protection.

The peace community of San José de Apartadó shall be built up as another base station of the Global Campus. The Global Campus is an international training initiative for peace workers. The participating organisations, the Institute for Global Peace Work of the peace research center Tamera, Portugal, the Peace Research Village Association in Berlin, Germany and the Holy Land Trust in Bethlehem, Palestine are researching the organisation and construction of self-sufficient community models as an alternative to the globalization of violence. The unimpeded research work of all cooperation partners in these models for peace must be guaranteed.

Currently, we hold a seminar of the Global Campus in the peace community and experience shows that the threat to the members is greatest after the conclusion of such an event, once the internationals have left the place.

That is why I ask you the following demands:

- 1) The persecution of the peace community by the public security forces must stop.
- 2) In 2007, some teachers at the "Escuela Militar de Cadetes José Maria Cordoba" (cadet military school), showed a photo of Eduard Lanchero to their students with an order to memorize it so as to eliminate him as soon as possible. These measures absolutely must be stopped and reversed.
- 3) Recently, the deserter from the guerrilla alias Samir involved Eduard Lanchero in a false testimony, which represented him as a collaborator with the guerrilla in order to justify repression of the military and the judiciary against him. There must be initiated a judicial inquiry against Samir.
- 4) The members of the state who were involved in these threats (as named in the case documentation) must be persecuted judicially and removed from office.

For an encompassing justice on the basis of human rights!