



# MIT Western Hemisphere Project

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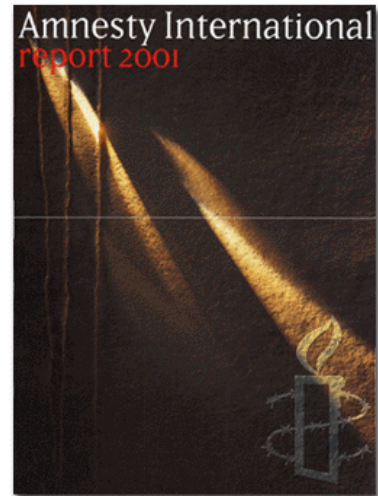
## Amnesty International's **report 2001**

**This Amnesty International Report documents human rights violation during 2000 in 149 countries and territories.**

It is published in Amnesty International's 40th anniversary year. Since 1961, Amnesty International members have campaigned to defend prisoners of conscience and other victims of human rights violations including torture, "disappearances", political killings and executions. Amnesty International activists have worked on more than 45,000 cases, and have responded to more than 16,600 urgent appeals on behalf of

men, women and children in immediate danger.

Many of these appeals were on behalf of people at risk of torture. Indeed, in the majority of countries surveyed in this report, there were credible allegations of torture or ill-treatment during 2000. Amnesty International's aim, however, is not only to describe the shocking prevalence of these abuses but also to devise a strategy to eradicate them. In October 2000 Amnesty International launched a new campaign to mobilize people around the world in a collective effort to combat torture.



## *AMERICAS*

*The human rights situation remained serious in many countries throughout the region, with impunity still largely prevailing. In Colombia, the ever-escalating armed conflict led to a further deepening of the human rights crisis, with more than 4,000 political killings, over 300 "disappearances" and an estimated 300,000 people internally displaced. The vast majority of the victims are civilians caught in the crossfire between the armed forces, armed opposition groups and army-backed paramilitaries. Amnesty International opposed the military aid plan known as Plan Colombia, fearing it would only aggravate the conflict and the ensuing human rights violations, and deplored the decision to waive the human rights conditions attached to it. [...]*

### References:

<http://www.amnesty.org/>  
<http://web.amnesty.org/web/ar2001.nsf/home/home?OpenDocument>  
<http://web.amnesty.org/web/ar2001.nsf/regAMR/regAMR?OpenDocument>