



Training of Trainers: legal aspects of enforced disappearances

Brief on training of trainers to be held in Venice (Italy) from 18/01/10 until 22/01/10

In this brief you will find relevant information concerning the Training of Trainers on Legal Aspects of Enforced Disappearances organised by the programme Linking Solidarity of *Aim for human rights*, to be held in Venice (Italy) from 18/01/10 until 22/01/10. The information in this brief is divided into information about the training itself and practical information. For any questions and comments about the training in general and this brief you can of course contact the Linking Solidarity staff. Our first contact person for practical issues is Iratxe Florez. Our contact person for issues regarding the content of the training is Ewoud Plate. Their contact details are:

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For content of training:

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The training

Why a training of trainers?

One of the objectives of Linking Solidarity is to enhance knowledge on legal issues and international mechanisms on enforced disappearances among family members of the disappeared and their 'helpers' (NGOs, priests, lawyers etc...). Activities to achieve this objective include giving trainings and training of trainers in specific countries, organising seminars, developing a monitoring tool and a manual, and providing (legal) advice.

The trainings have largely been provided by three trainers within the LS team. This gives three challenges:

- 1) A large dependency on those three trainers;
- 2) Trainings not completely adapted to specific cultural contexts and languages;
- 3) Uncertainty about the sustainability of results.

Until now we have given four training of trainers (in Sri Lanka, Peru, Colombia and the Netherlands). The result has been that different trainings on the topic of enforced disappearances have been reproduced or adapted to specific contexts and to different groups of audiences by participants to the training of trainers.





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Objective of the training

To prepare a pool of trainers from all over the world who are willing and able to train others on legal protection from enforced disappearances.

Specific objectives

- Further enhancement of knowledge regarding legal aspects of enforced disappearances;
- Development of various training skills;
- Motivate participants to give trainings on the subject themselves.

Who will be training you?

The training will be done by three staff members of Linking Solidarity, namely:

Ewoud Plate: Senior Legal Training and Advocacy Officer
Iratxe Florez: Content Manager EDIEC
Jan de Vries: Legal Training and Advocacy Officer

We have given trainings and training of trainers for three years in South Africa, Burundi, Georgia, Peru, Guatemala, Colombia, Sri Lanka, Iraq, Morocco, Turkey and The Netherlands.

What do we do within a training of trainers?

There are two elements to a training of trainers. These are:

- 1) The subject: legal aspects of enforced disappearances;
- 2) The format: the training course as a means to spread knowledge and skills

These elements will be intertwined in the programme of this training. The subject will cover the basics of legal aspects of enforced disappearances, while the format of the programme will also look at all aspects relating to training adults from the preparations to the evaluation and follow-up.

There will be particular sessions regarding the format. The session on the particular subjects related to legal aspects of enforced disappearances will be done along the lines of the format we train you in.

This means that a session on a subject has two dimensions:

- 1) It will provide information on the subject;
- 2) It will also give an idea of how to train on the particular subject.

We will certainly cover subjects you already have extensive knowledge on. However, we will cover these subjects as if you were a group of participants with little knowledge. From previous trainings we have learned that this working method works well. One of the main positive feedback reactions has been that the training places all pieces of specific and fragmented knowledge on the subject within a more general overview and it may complete your knowledge on some other aspects. It obviously also helps you in thinking about how you would train participants to your trainings on the particular subject.





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Subject: legal issues with regard to enforced disappearances

The subject will cover the basics of enforced disappearances, such as how to distinguish an enforced disappearance from other disappearances, the definition of an enforced disappearance, state obligation, instruments and monitoring mechanisms, different actions of victims against enforced disappearances, the Convention and how to document enforced disappearances.

Participation

The basis of each training of Linking Solidarity is experience and knowledge of the group. We do not teach, but we train. This means in many cases that we mostly *facilitate a learning process*. There will not be long lectures and one-way information sharing. Instead much of the work will be done by you and information gathering and sharing will be done by everyone to everyone.

The concrete end result of the training will, for example, be that you have designed part of your own training and presented it to the group.

What this means is that we will ask you to participate very actively!!!

Cooperation with the EIUC

The idea of cooperation with the European Inter-University Centre and with the Master programme it is hosting came up recently. Aim for human rights thought of choosing an unusual location for a training of trainers at low costs, and the EIUC students would benefit from an exchange with human rights defenders active in their own countries. One afternoon of the programme has been designed for joint activities and exchange.

Practical Information

The venue

The *Training of Trainers: legal aspects of enforced disappearances* will be held in the the Monastery of San Nicolò, which is also hosting the European Inter-University Center. The address of this location is:

Monastery of San Nicolò
Riviera San Nicolò 26
I-30126 Venice Lido (Italy)
Tel. +39 041-2720911
Fax +39 041-2720914

To facilitate your arrival to the monastery, you will be picked up at the Marco Polo airport by one of the trainers or a representative of the EIUC. If your flight arriving to Marco Polo airport is delayed please let us know by sending a message to:





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Iratxe Flórez
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This number can also be used for any other eventuality.

The expenses

Aim for human rights will cover expenses for travel, accommodation, insurance as well as breakfast, lunches and dinners. If you make any of these expensed during your traveling to the training and back to your place of residence (like taxis for example), if possible please present us with the receipts. If you are flying into Italy we would also like to ask you to keep your boarding pass. We will need to present those in our finance report of this event.

Emergency contact

For any question or emergency you can contact any of the following numbers:

Iratxe Flórez +31 648257146
Jan de Vries +31 645604940
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Questions?

If you had any questions don't hesitate contacting Iratxe, Ewoud or Jan on the numbers or email addresses given to be found in this letter.



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