



FUNDEM
Fuerzas Unidas por Nuestros Desaparecidos en México

**MORE THAN 37 THOUSAND DISAPPEARED PERSONS:
TRUTH AND JUSTICE FOR ALL**

FIRST URGENT LETTER

**TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF MEXICO
ANDRÉS MANUEL LÓPEZ OBRADOR**

Saltillo, Coahuila, December 19th 2018

To the Constitutional President of Mexico, Andrés Manuel López Obrador
To the People of México
To all the relatives of disappeared persons and Victims of violence in Mexico
To the families of the 43 disappeared young students of Ayotzinapa
To the Mexican and Central American mothers
To the indigenous peoples in Mexico
To Dr. Olga Sánchez Cordero, Secretary of Government of Mexico
To Alejandro Encinas Rodríguez, Under-Secretary for Human Rights of Mexico
To Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN)
To the Congreso Nacional Indígena
To the Consejo Indígena de Gobierno
To all the International Justice and Human Rights Bodies
To all peoples and Governments throughout the world

We, the mothers, fathers, daughters, wives and relatives of disappeared persons in Mexico, together in the national representative assembly, in the city of Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico in December 2018. In the presence of the families from Coahuila, Chihuahua, Jalisco, Baja California, Guanajuato, Estado de México, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas., Hidalgo and Mexico City; we address ourselves to all of you, particularly to those who are going through the same sorrow and pain as we are.

We also call on you, Mr. President, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, appealing to your human sensitivity; to you, as a father and to your responsibility as the Head of State, to remind you the commitments you made before us in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico City, Irapuato and in the context of the creation of the Truth Commission for Ayotzinapa case.



You undertook to guarantee the truth and that no case will remain unpunished.

Now, we tell you that the omission in your Presidential speech at the Zocalo square in Mexico City last first of December, regarding the more than 37 thousand disappeared persons in our Country, was painful and lead feelings of despair, but we are not giving up.

We fully agree with what one of the mothers of the young students of Ayotzinapa said: “We no longer believe in anyone”, but you opened the doors of hope, although you omitted us.

We have been looking for years for our disappeared loved ones, we have gone a long way and exhausted the corrupted instances of justice, but we have found nothing. We have worked really hard in the search for our missing persons; on the proposal of new legislation; on working methods to locate disappeared persons, and to bring justice and truth.

This year, on December 19th, Fuerzas Unidas por Nuestros Desaparecidos en Coahuila and Fuerzas Unidas por Nuestros Desaparecidos en México (FUUNDEC-FUNDEM), reach 9 years of a constant struggle which also are 9 years of making a political statement.

Today, we tell you, our patience is running out.

Mr. President, do not politicize the case of the 43 young students of Ayotzinapa, as Peña Nieto did. For our part, we reaffirm our full support since the first day for the searching of truth and justice for the disappeared young students of Ayotzinapa. Their mothers and fathers know that we live with the same tragedy every day. However, all of us demand urgent responses in order to bring all the disappeared persons across the country back home. This answer must attend our struggle, our effort and the construction of numerous alternatives that we have made from our condition as relatives of disappeared persons, and as a victimized country which has also indicated the course to the authorities to rebuild the lives of our families.

We ask for a close interaction with all the families.

We value the effort of the Undersecretary, Alejandro Encinas, however, we want you to work with all the people from below so we, together, implement the necessary actions to finally know about our families and our disappeared persons.

We ask you, Mr. President, to be open at the urgent need of an International Mechanism against impunity in Mexico, to a whole new Prosecutor's Office that works; to a new or extended Truth Commission and to an International Mechanism of forensic identification.

TRUTH AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

To the International solidarity and International Collaboration, we have knowledge that enforcement disappearance in Mexico is a crime against humanity.

Let us therefore commit fully with the cooperation of International Organizations. We know, for a fact, that there are many Countries willing to help us. Let us accept the offer, their support and solidarity.



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We emphasize: during your inaugural speech, on December 1st, you mentioned the 43 disappeared young students of Ayotzinapa, without taking into account the more than 37 thousand disappeared persons that have joined the official toll.

We felt disregarded when you excluded our disappeared loved ones.

We are the same!

Do not attempt to divide us!

From us, FUUNDEC-FUNDEM, we tell the mothers and the fathers of the 43 young students of Ayotzinapa, Let us look for each other and let us meet together.

In this new period, Mr. President, we demand the competent authorities the location and return of all the disappeared persons to their homes; also, we demand the implementation of the immediate search methods. We request efficient search for the disappeared persons, effective investigation, beyond our borders. No more simulation!

We, the relatives of the more of 37 thousand disappeared persons officially recognized, organized in various groups throughout our massacred country, are more than willing to keep working, to help, and contribute to look for the best methods of solutions to the tragedy of enforcement disappearances in Mexico.

We, the families, don't want to be deceived again.

The disappointment and betrayal will be even worse to this country.

Enforcement disappearance in Mexico is not just one more issue, it is a tragedy. Our tragedy is political, but must not become politicized.

Mr. President, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, we recognize that the people of Mexico elected you with a historical citizen participation. However, in your inaugural speech and the subsequent, you excluded our disappeared persons, more than 37 thousand persons. It seems like you chose not to consider the sorrow of all the families in your route across the country.

We ask you to have the courage to break the pact of impunity and to build the truth and justice that our people need.

Our people have a lot of pain, incomplete families and a fractured social structure.

You can go down in history if you opt for the solutions we, the families of the victims, suggest.

We all want truth and a Country where there are no disappeared persons. No more!



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There is no forgiveness without justice!

No more words. We want facts!

We want International cooperation in the search for our disappeared loved ones.

We demand competent authorities in the search for our disappeared persons and we propose that the new General Prosecutor has an appropriate profile to lead the whole new Prosecutor's Office, likewise, we ask him/her to be efficient and to meet the demands of the relatives of disappeared persons.

We don't want the military in our streets, we demand an effective national security policy monitored and evaluated by national and international organizations.

To all peoples and Governments throughout the world, we ask for your solidarity and international political pressure.

We don't want the rest of our society to go through this tragedy, despite our best will, it is multiplying every day.

Our country is hurt and ravished; it needs truth, justice, memory and non-repetition of those crimes. This must not be forgotten. Ever!

To all the society, we ask for your solidarity and sensibility to walk through this together, so we can find solutions.

Everyone, united, can fight to defend your and our rights.

One of the major pillars of this Country is us, the mothers of disappeared persons. We have paralyzed the whole country, not just on the public holidays, but every day we go out and fight. We have constructed. We are the focal point, as women and as mothers that have a major impact. We, the mothers, generate changes, even when we have to live with our pain.

To the mothers with migrant sons and daughters that are disappeared, we tell you, we are also looking for them. YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

JUSTICE DOES NOT MEAN REVENGE!

JUSTICE MEANS THE RETURN OF ALL DISAPPEARED PERSONS TO THEIR FAMILIES!

PUNISHMENT TO THOSE RESPONSIBLE!

ALIVE THEY TOOK THEM AWAY, ALIVE WE WANT THEM BACK!



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FUERZAS UNIDAS POR NUESTROS DESAPARECIDOS EN COAHUILA Y EN MÉXICO
(FUUNDEC-FUNDEM)