



## MEXICO: TWO YOUNG MEN REMAIN DISAPPEARED

Between 27 December and 3 January, at least seven young men disappeared in Chilpancingo, the capital of Guerrero state. Most cases point to the involvement of local police. Three of the disappeared men were found alive with signs of torture; two others were found dead. The whereabouts of two still remain unknown.



Families march in protest against disappearances in Chilpancingo. Photo via [Mexico News Daily](#)

Marco Catalán Cabrera (34) of their liberty and disappeared them on 30 December 2017. Their bodies were later found on 3 January 2018 in an abandoned lot on the outskirts of Chilpancingo.

Two young men remain disappeared. Abel Aguilar García (18) went missing on 25 December 2017. Families told Amnesty International that he left his student boarding house on that morning and never returned. Efraín Patrón Ramos (24) disappeared during the early hours of 29 December, and was reported alive for the last time while driving his vehicle down a central avenue of Chilpancingo. Families told Amnesty International that before disappearing, Efraín Patrón Ramos spoke to a friend on the phone and said that municipal police had been following him. Relatives of Abel Aguilar Garcia and Efraín Patrón Ramos claim that the Guerrero State Attorney's office has not carried out a proper investigation into the disappearances, and have instead tried to minimize the urgency of the cases.

On 27 December 2017, Chilpancingo police and state investigative police disappeared Alán Alexis (20) during seven days, and tortured him along with two teenagers (15 and 16 years old - names withheld for security reasons). On 3 January 2018, these three young men were found with clear signs of torture and bound up with tape all over their bodies. Amnesty International received information that police tortured these men to obtain

information from them. Municipal police, allegedly in collusion with organized crime, deprived Jorge Vázquez Campos (30) and

**Please send an urgent letter, email or fax without delay!**

- \* Urge the Guerrero State Attorney to establish the whereabouts of the missing young men, as well as investigate the torture suffered by three others.
- \* Call on the Guerrero State Attorney to carry out a prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigation into these events, make the results public and bring those responsible to justice.
- \* Call on the Federal Attorney General's Office to cooperate with the investigation of the events and search of the missing men.
- \* Call on the Mayor of Chilpancingo to ensure proper vetting of municipal police in order to eliminate collusion with criminal networks.

**Here are the contact details you will require:**

Guerrero State Attorney

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Salutation: Dear State Attorney/  
Estimado Fiscal del Estado

Acting Federal Attorney General

Alberto Elías Beltrán  
Subprocuraduría Jurídica y de Asuntos  
Internacionales (en suplencia del Procurador  
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suplencia

**Please send a copy to:**

Mayor of Chilpancingo

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In late December 2017, a spate of disappearances took place in the city of Chilpancingo, in the southern region of Guerrero, western Mexico. Local and national media immediately reported the allegations of nexus between these crimes and local police. Amnesty International researchers documented these cases with field research and published a press release with their research findings (see here:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/01/mexico-cloaked-by-silence-of-christmas-police-unleash-spate-of-at-least-5-enforced-disappearances-in-guerrero/> ).

These disappearances took place approximately one hour away from where the notorious mass disappearance of 43 students from the Ayoztinapa rural teachers' training college occurred in September 2014.

Enforced disappearances (with the involvement of the state) and disappearances committed by non-state actors continue to be common in Mexico and those responsible enjoy almost absolute impunity. The official National Register of Missing and Disappeared Persons indicates that, by the end of 2017, the fate or whereabouts of 33,482 people (24,805 men and 8,677 women) remained unknown. The actual numbers are probably higher because the official figures exclude federal cases that occurred before 2014 and cases classified as other criminal offences such as hostage-taking or human trafficking.

Investigations into cases of missing persons continue to be flawed and authorities generally fail to immediately initiate searches for the victims.