

Mandates of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls

REFERENCE:
UA PHL 1/2020

15 April 2020

Excellency,

We have the honour to address you in our capacity as Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences and Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 42/22, 36/6, 35/15, 34/18, 41/12, 34/5, 40/16, 41/17 and 41/6.

In this connection, we would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government information we have received concerning the alleged killings of human rights defenders Mr. **Ryan Hubilla** and Ms. **Nelly Bagasala** as well as the threats, arbitrary detention and legal cases brought against other human rights defenders from the organisations Karapatan, Gabriela and Rural Missionaries of the Philippines that work on issues including enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings. The individuals concerned include Ms. **Elisa Tita Lubi**, Ms. **Cristina Palabay**, Mr. **Reylan Vergara**, Mr. **Roneo Clamor**, Ms. **Kiri Dalena**, Ms. **Edita Burgos**, Mr. **Wilfredo Ruazol**, Mr. **Jose Mari Callueng**, Ms. **Elenita Belardo**, Ms. **Emma Cupin**, Ms. **Gertrudes Libang**, Ms. **Joan May Salvador**, Ms. **Jennefer Aguhob**, Mr. **Alexander Philip Abinguna**, Ms. **Mira Dalla Legion**, Ms. **Frenchie Mae Cumpio**, Ms. **Marissa Cabaljao** and Ms. **Mariel Alvez Domequil**.

Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights (Karapatan) is a national alliance of human rights organisations and individual human rights defenders established in 1995. Karapatan has 16 regional offices across the country and over 40 member organisations working on issues such as enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings and attacks against human rights defenders. Karapatan's activities include education, training, advocacy, research and network building.

Gabriela is a national alliance of women's rights organisations and groups.

Rural Missionaries of the Philippines (RMP) is a national organisation, inter-congregational and inter-diocesan in character, of religious, priests and lay women and men. They work with peasants (farmers, fisherfolks, indigenous peoples and agricultural workers). Founded in 1969, RMP is one of the Mission Partners of the association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP).

Concerns regarding the treatment of individuals belonging to the aforementioned organisations have been previously raised in several communications to your Excellency's Government including amongst others;

- on 15 June 2015 (PHL 3/2015) and 7 December 2018 (PHL 11/2018) regarding threats, harassment intimidation and surveillance of Karapatan members;
- on 31 March 2014 (PHL 2/2014), on 6 May 2014 (PHL 3/2014) and on 13 December 2018 (PHL 10/2018) on the killing of RMP and Karapatan members;
- on 23 April 2018 (PHL 4/2018) following public statements and threats made by President Rodrigo Duterte vilifying Karapatan;
- on 8 June 2018 (PHL 5/2018) regarding the inclusion of Karapatan and Gabriela members on a list of "terrorist" organisations including Ms. Elisa Tita Lubi;
- on 26 December 2019 (PHL 7/2019) on raids on several civil society organisations including Karapatan and Gabriela and threats against Ms. Christina Palabay.

We regret that we have not received any substantive response to any of these communications and urge your Excellency's Government to provide precise and detailed responses at the earliest opportunity.

We would also like to recall that the case of Mr. Burgos' son, Mr. Jonas Burgos, has been treated under the humanitarian mandate of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

We would also like to recall that allegations of reprisals against Karapatan for engagement with the United Nations were also included in the Report of the Secretary-General on Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights (A/HRC/42/30, paragraph 83).

According to the information received, the alleged violations occurred in the following chronology:

May 2019 – Writ petition filed

On 6 May 2019, **Karapatan, Gabriela and RMP** filed a petition for the writs of **amparo and habeas data** before the Supreme Court against the President of the Philippines and several other members of the administration. These writs are available to individuals whose rights to life, liberty and security are transgressed or threatened to be violated by an unlawful act or omission of a public officer or private entity. The petition asked for a temporary protection order to prevent the respondents from “threatening to commit or committing, personally or through another, any acts violating the rights to life, liberty, and security,” and to seek all information on file pertaining to each of the petitioners and for this information to be destroyed. In the petition, Karapatan cited various threats its members had received under the existing and two previous Governments and noted that between 2001 and 2019 at least 68 of its human rights defenders have been killed by State forces including 12 under the current Government.

The petitioners were:

- **for Karapatan;** Chairperson Ms. **Elisa Tita Lubi**, Secretary General Ms. **Cristina Palabay**, Vice Chairperson Mr. **Reylan Vergara**, Deputy Secretary General Mr. **Roneo Clamor**, Treasurer Ms. **Kiri Dalena**, and National Council members Mr. **Edita Burgos**, and Mr. **Jose Mari Callueng** and National Council member and priest Mr. **Wilfredo Ruazol**;
- **for the RMP;** its National Coordinator and nun, **Ms. Elenita Belardo** and member of Northern Mindanao unit and nun, **Ms. Emma Cupin**; and
- **for Gabriela;** its acting Chairperson Ms. **Gertrudes Libang** and Secretary General Ms. **Joan May Salvador**.

On 24 May 2019, **the Supreme Court**, in an *en banc* session, **issued both writs** and directed the 14th Division of the Court of Appeals to hear the petition.

June 2019 – Killing of two defenders and writ petition dismissed

On the 15 June 2019, Mr. **Ryan Hubilla**, a student and Karapatan Sorsogon staff member, who had been due to act as a witness in the court case and who had previously experienced threats and harassment from suspected military agents, **was killed by unknown assailants**. Ms. **Nelly Bagasala**, a human rights defender, who was formerly a peasant leader in Barcelona town, Sorsogon province and became a human rights worker for Sorsogon People’s Organisation-Karapatan in 2016, **was killed alongside him**. The day prior to their killing, Mr. Hubilla and several others attended a trial requesting the release of three political prisoners from detention. The court granted the order and Mr. Hubilla and his colleagues hired a van with a driver to pick up the released individuals. As they were returning to Sorsogon City after dropping off those released, the group noticed a motorcycle tailing them with two men on it. The driver was wearing a

helmet and the passenger was covering the bottom half of his face with a black shirt. Mr. Hubilla took a picture of the men riding the motorcycle. The men noticed and drove off. When arriving back at the office, Mr. Hubilla realised that his smartphone was missing. Reportedly, in the evening, the driver of the van was harassed by armed soldiers. Mr. Hubilla and his colleagues stayed in the Karapatan office overnight, as they were concerned about the incident.

In the morning of 15 June 2019, Mr. Hubilla, Ms. Nelly Bagasala and another individual took a tricycle taxi to meet the driver who had driven the van the previous day. At 8.36 a.m., they arrived at Seabreeze Subdivision in Sorsogon City and Mr. Hubilla got out to pay the fare. Two men were on a motorbike nearby, wearing black helmets and dark clothes. The rider of the motorbike approached Mr. Hubilla and shot him multiple times. He then shot Ms. Nelly Bagasala who was still inside the tricycle cab. The third individual escaped, but the gunmen reportedly yelled “where is the other one?” At 11 a.m., Scene of the Crime Operatives (SOCO) arrived and took the bodies away for an autopsy.

On 18 June 2019, the **Court of Appeals held a three-hour summary hearing** but did not allow the petitioners to present testimonial evidence or documents on technical grounds.

On 28 June 2019, the **petition was dismissed**. The **petitioners contested** the decision.

July 2019 – Perjury suit brought

From 1 to 5 July 2019, Ms. Cristina Palabay led a delegation of human rights defenders to the **41st session of the UN Human Rights Council** in Geneva. During the session, the Council adopted resolution [41/2](#) on the human rights situation in the Philippines.

On 2 July 2019, the National Security Advisor of the Philippines, Mr. Esperon filed a **perjury complaint against the petitioners** in relation to their amparo and habeas data petitions. The complaint related to a small procedural issue rather than to the rest of the 600 page amparo petition submitted by the organisations. Mr. Esperon accused RMP of making a false statement by claiming that it was a duly registered organisation and stated that their registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) had been revoked in August 2003.

RMP did not receive a notification from the SEC on the alleged revocation. They filled for re-registration as required in 2010 and have complied with requirements for re-registration and reporting. Acting in good faith, they stated their status as an NGO in the amparo petition.

On 29 July 2019, **Karapatan, RMP and Gabriela challenged the Court of Appeal's dismissal of their amparo and habeas data petition** through a petition for review at the Supreme Court.

August 2019 – Statement from the President, threats against defenders and counter-affidavits filed

On 2 August 2019, President Duterte reportedly **called Karapatan “an organisation of demons in the Philippines.”**

On 6 August 2019, at 9.12 a.m., **Ms. Cristina Palabay** got a call from mobile number [REDACTED], but was unable to answer it. It was followed by a **threatening text** stating “Hey you pests. You communist pests. We will get your elderly boss. We know that she is just here in Quezon City.” At 9.15 a.m., **Mr. Roneo Clamor** received a call from the same number followed by the same threatening text. **Ms. Elisa Tita Lubi** also received a call from the same number but was not able to answer it. The incident was reported to the Commission on Human Rights on 6 September 2019.

On 15 August 2019, the members of Karapatan, RMP and Gabriela filed counter-affidavits at the Quezon city Prosecutor's Office of the Department of Justice. The joint counter-affidavit from Ms. Cristina Palabay, Mr. Reylan Vergara, Mr. Roneo Clamor, Ms. Kiri Dalena, Ms. Edita Burgos, Mr. Wilfredo Ruazol, and Mr. Jose Mari Callueng stated that the data in the petition was based on their personal knowledge of facts pertaining to Karapatan and that RMP did not commit perjury. Ms. Elisa Tita Lubi waived her right to file a counter affidavit as she felt that the charges imputed were against an organisation and not against an individual as no specific act in the charges were attributed to her. This is not an admission of guilt nor does it prejudice the presumption of her innocence in the case, which was brought in retaliation for the three organisations' filing of their petitions for the writs of amparo and habeas data.

From 10 to 20 September 2019, Ms. Cristina Palabay headed a delegation of human rights defenders to the **42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council**.

October 2019 – Raid of Karapatan's office in Bacolod City

On 31 October 2019, **Karapatan's offices in Bacolod City, Negros was raided by police and 58 human rights defenders were arrested** on charges based on planted evidence.

December 2019– Perjury case partially dismissed and threats against Ms. Palabay.

On 4 December 2019, a **resolution was received by the respondents** dated 8 November 2019. The resolution indicated the perjury case filed by Mr. Esperon had been dismissed by the Senior Assistant to the Prosecutor for “lack of probable cause and/or insufficiency of evidence” in relation to the cases against all members of Karapatan, the two Gabriela members and Ms. Emma Cupin of RMP. However, a case was filed against Ms. Elenita Belardo in her capacity as the then National Coordinator of RMP.

On 5 December 2019, an **arrest warrant was issued against Ms. Elenita Belardo** by Branch 37 of the Metropolitan Trial Court of Quezon City.

On 9 December 2019, Karapatan sent a submission to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in relation to its report on the Philippines and held a press conference.

On 10 December 2019, Ms. Cristina Palabay participated in the International Human Rights Day protests in Manila. At around 9 p.m., she received a call on her mobile from [REDACTED] followed by several **text messages containing death and rape threats**. The incident was reported to the Philippine Commission on Human Rights. She also allegedly received **several online threats, including from social media accounts of the Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines and the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict**.

On 26 December 2019, Karapatan’s legal counsel received a **motion** for reconsideration which had been filed on 18 December 2019, seeking to include the respondents whose complaints had been dismissed by the Senior Assistant to the Prosecutor on 4 December 2019.

February 2020 – Raid on offices in Tacloban City and arrests of defenders

On 5 February 2020, Ms. **Jennefer Aguhob**, a Karapatan National Council member for Western Mindanao and paralegal of the Union of People’s Lawyers in Mindanao (UPLM), a licensed engineer and a law student about to take the bar, **was arrested** in Oroquieta City on charges of murder based on a warrant issued on 26 July 2019 by the Regional Trial Court Branch 9 in Diplong City Zamboanga del Norte. **Prior to her arrest**, she was unaware that a complaint had been filled against her. In February 2018, she had been approached by 12 members of the Philippine Army in Oroquieta City Engineering Office. The meeting was facilitated by two city counsellors. In the meeting, Ms. Aguhob was accused of being a supporter of the Community Party of the Philippines and of holding bank accounts and buying medicines for them. Ms. Aguhob denied these

allegations as baseless. The soldiers provided information on her whereabouts since mid-2017, which suggests that she had been under surveillance by the military. She was asked to provide details of Communist Party members in the Western Mindanao region and was promised financial assistance and security of tenure in exchange. She was also told to sign a paper agreement which she refused. On 3 March 2018, a Major from the Army visited Ms. Aguhob's office for a second time and asked about an incident involving the bombing of a construction company's equipment. Ms. Aguhob indicated she had no information or knowledge of the incident. Ms. Aguhob is currently being detained in Oroquieta City Police Station. It is believed the charges against her are being brought in retaliation for her human rights activities.

On 6 February 2020, a letter was sent from Katungod Sinirangan Bisayas-Karapatan to the Commission on Human Rights regarding reports of a possible **police raid of NGO offices** in Tacloban City.

On 7 February 2020, **two raids** were conducted on the offices of Bayan, Sagupa, and Katungod Sinirangan Bisayas-Karapatan (Karapatan chapter in Eastern Visayas) and the office of Eastern Vista, all of which are in Tacloban city, Leyte. The raids were conducted by several different entities including the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group RFU 8, the Philippine National Police PRO 8, the Tacloban City Police office and the Armed Forces of the Philippines under search warrant Nos. 2020-02-02 and 2020-02-03, issued by Regional Trial Court Branch 44, Office of the Executive Judge - Tacloban City, on 3 February 2020. The search warrants were issued for the supposed probable cause of violation of Republic Act 10591 for alleged possession of unlicensed guns and ammunition.

The raids were conducted between 1.50 a.m. and 2.20 a.m. and involved around 150 fully armed individuals. According to information received, the officers forcibly opened rooms, pointed long firearms at the occupants, dragged or ordered them outside and told them to lie down. Members of the raiding team remained inside the rooms for 10 minutes with no witnesses. The raiding team then left the rooms and the barangay officials arrived. Searches were conducted by the police, military and barangay officials. In the office of Eastern Vista, a pistol, ammunition, fragments of hand grenades and a red flag with Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA) symbol were allegedly seized along with 557,000.00 Philippine pesos in cash and pictures were taken of the individuals. It is alleged that the ammunition and weapons were planted by the raiding team during the raid. At 9.00 p.m. on 7 February 2020, Mr. **Alexander Philip Abinguna**, Ms. **Mira Dalla Legion**, Ms. **Frenchie Mae Cumpio**, Ms. **Marissa Cabaljao** and Ms. **Mariel Alvez Domequil** were arrested. All five were charged with violation of Republic Act 10591 (Comprehensive Law on Firearms). Ms. Cumpio, Ms. Domequil and Mr. Abinguna were also charged with

violation of Republic Act 9516 (unlawful possession of explosives). Ms. Cabaljao and Ms. Domequil have been released on bail. Mr. Abinguna, Ms. Legion and Ms. Cumpio remain in detention.

On 28 February 2020, Ms. Cristina Palabay travelled to Geneva, Switzerland to co-lead a delegation of human rights defenders at the **Human Rights Council**.

March 2020 – Motion against the respondents granted and bail posted

On 4 March 2020, Karapatan received a copy of a court information dated 27 February 2020, which granted Mr. Esperon's **motion of reconsideration** against the respondents. It is assumed warrants of arrest have been issued.

On 5 March 2020, bail was posted of 18,000 Philippine pesos per individual at Branch 37 of the Metropolitan Trial Court of Quezon City. Ms. Cristina Palabay is expected to post bail upon her return to the Philippines.

It is believed that all of the above incidents are **reprisals** for the advocacy work conducted by Karapatan, RMP and Gabriela at the national and international level, including before the UN Human Rights Council.

While we do not wish to prejudge the accuracy of the information received, we express extremely serious concern at the continued allegations of arbitrary arrests, detention, extrajudicial killings, threats of death and of sexual violence against human rights defenders, some of which allegedly emanated from law enforcement agencies. We are also gravely concerned that these alleged acts appear to have been in retaliation for their human rights activities including their engagement with the UN Human Rights Council and that, despite repeated requests, including through the legal system, no protection has been provided to these persons. Instead, Karapatan, Gabriela and RMP members have faced a counter suit which may also be a retaliation for their human rights activities.

Additionally, we reiterate the serious concerns raised, and all references made, in PHL 7/2019, including regarding the labelling of multiple human rights defenders as “terrorists,” the statements made by high-level officials threatening human rights organisations and the worrying broader trend of “red-tagging”. Human Rights Council resolution 22/6, as well as several United Nations Security Council resolutions, urge States to ensure that measures to combat terrorism and preserve national security are taken in compliance with their obligations under international law and do not hinder the work and safety of individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights.

We once again kindly remind your Excellency's Government that it is obliged, constitutionally and under the international conventions ratified by the

Philippines, to provide effective protection of their rights to individuals in danger of arbitrary execution and arbitrary deprivation of liberty, to establish an enabling environment for the exercise of freedom of association and expression free from any forms of intimidation, and to take concrete steps to prevent threats, harassment and attacks against any individuals, including human rights defenders. Despite repeated communications to your Excellency's Government raising these issues, we continue to receive information that, rather than improving, the situation for human rights defenders in the Philippines continues to deteriorate. We reiterate our call on your Excellency's Government to take urgent and effective steps to ensure the safety and security of human rights defenders and to create an enabling environment for them.

Should these allegations prove to be true, they would constitute violations of articles 2, 6, 9, 16, 17, 19, 21 and 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) ratified by the Philippines on 23 October 1986 which guarantee the right to life, to liberty and security of the person, to freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention, the right to be recognized everywhere as a person before the law, as well as the rights to privacy, freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of association.

We underscore again the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, in particular articles 1, 2, 5 (b), 6 and 12 (2) and (3); the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions, in particular paragraph 4; and the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in particular articles 2, 9, 13 and 14.

We also reiterate the obligations of the Philippines by virtue of its ratification of the international Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) which the Philippines ratified on 5 August 1981 in particular article 7 (c); the recommendations of the Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls' report on participation in public life (A/HRC/23/50) in particular paragraph 65 and paragraph 97 (i); as well as the resolutions of the General Assembly GA Res 68/181 and Human Rights Council HRC Res 31/32 expressing particular concerns about systemic and structural discrimination and violence faced by women human rights defenders and calling for the protection and support States should provide them.

We further recall Human Rights Council resolutions 12/2, 24/24, 36/21, and 42/28 reaffirming the right of everyone, individually or in association with other, to unhindered access to and communication with international bodies, in particular the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights. In these resolutions, the Human Rights Council urges States to refrain from all acts of intimidation or reprisals, to take all appropriate measures to prevent the occurrence of such acts. This includes the adoption and implementation of specific legislation and policies in order to promote a

safe and enabling environment for engagement with the United Nations on human rights, and to effectively protect those who cooperate with the United Nations.

The full texts of the human rights instruments and standards recalled above are available on www.ohchr.org or can be provided upon request.

In view of the urgency of the matter (i.e. the continuing risks to the life, personal security and liberty of members of Karaptan, RMP and Gabriela) we would appreciate a prompt response on the steps taken by your Excellency's Government to safeguard the rights of the above-mentioned persons in compliance with the Philippines's obligations under its Constitution and the conventions it has ratified.

As it is our responsibility, under the mandates provided to us by the Human Rights Council, to seek to clarify all cases brought to our attention, we would be grateful for the observations of your Excellency's Government on the following matters:

1. Please provide any additional information and any comment you may have on the above-mentioned allegations.
2. Please provide information and, where available, the results of any investigations into the killings of Mr. **Ryan Hubilla** and Ms. **Nelly Bagasala** and steps taken to prevent similar killings occurring in the future. If no inquiries have taken place, or if they have been inconclusive, please explain why, and how this is compatible with the Philippines's international human rights obligations.
3. Please provide details, and where available, the results of any investigations, or judicial or other inquiries which may have been carried out in relation to the reported threats against the **forementioned human rights defenders**. If no inquiries have taken place, or if they have been inconclusive, please explain why, and how this is compatible with the duty of protection of the State under its international human rights obligations.
4. Please provide information on the legal and factual basis of the arrests of the **forementioned individuals** and the charges brought against some of them, as well as the raids conducted at the offices of several **civil society organisations**. Please explain whether and how these measures are compatible with international human rights norms binding on the Philippines.
5. Please confirm whether the conditions of the arrest for the individuals taken into custody, including women human rights defenders, were in

conformity with international human rights standards norms binding on the Philippines

6. Please provide detailed information as to the specific measures that have been put in place to ensure human rights defenders and other members of civil society in the Philippines can carry out their legitimate work in a safe and enabling environment, without fear of harassment and intimidation from the authorities or any other agent acting on their behalf or with their acquiescence, along with specific information as to steps taken to support and promote the work of human rights defenders particularly women human rights defenders in the country.

We would like to inform your Excellency's Government that after having transmitted an urgent appeal to the Government, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention may transmit the case through its regular procedure in order to render an opinion on whether the deprivation of liberty was arbitrary or not. Such appeals in no way prejudge any opinion the Working Group may render. The Government is required to respond separately for the urgent appeal procedure and the regular procedure.

We again request a prompt response to this urgent communication. In the meanwhile, we recommend that steps be taken to prevent violations of the rights of the aforementioned individuals, and in the event that the investigations undertaken by the Government of the Philippines corroborates these allegations, to ensure the accountability of any person responsible for the violations and to prevent their recurrence.

This communication and any response received from your Excellency's Government will be made public via the communications reporting website within 60 days. They will also subsequently be made available in the usual report to be presented to the Human Rights Council.

In light of the allegations of possible acts of reprisals for cooperation with the United Nations on human rights, we reserve the right to share this communication – and any response received from Your Excellency's Government - with other UN bodies or representatives addressing intimidation and reprisals for cooperation with the UN in the field of human rights, in particular the senior United Nations official designated by the Secretary General to lead the efforts within the United Nations system to address this issue.

Given the importance of these allegations, the reliability of the information at hand, and the fact that the life, personal security and liberty of several individuals are potentially at risk, we may consider publicly expressing our concerns in the near future.

We believe indeed that the concerns expressed in this letter, and which are of a similar nature as those previously shared, warrant immediate attention on the part of the Government to protect the rights of these individuals and prevent the recurrence of further violations. We also believe that this is a matter of public interest, and that the wider public should be alerted to the human rights implications of these allegations. Any public expression of concern on our part would indicate that we have been repeatedly in contact with your Excellency's Government to clarify the issues in question.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Leigh Toomey
Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Luciano Hazan
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Agnes Callamard
Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

David Kaye
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

Clement Nyaletsossi Voule
Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

Michel Forst
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

Fionnuala Ní Aoláin
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

Dubravka Šimonovic
Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

Meskerem Techane
Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls