INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL PERSONS FROM ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE:
THE ISSUES OF A UNIVERSAL AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

The entry into force of the Convention on December 23, 2010, marked an historic step which led to the establishment of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) which met in November 2011 and March 2012 and developed the procedural rules and the guidelines to consider States' reports, urgent appeals and individual communications. The GA resolution adopted on December 19, 2011, on the issue of enforced disappearances (A/RES/66/160) requests for the first time the President of the CED and the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) to present their activity report in New York during its annual session in the fall of 2012.

So far, only 32 States Parties are bound by the Convention more than 5 years after the opening for signature, officially organised on February 6, 2007 at the Quai d'Orsay. Although the technical procedure of ratification and implementation of the treaty is slow, it is necessary to facilitate a rapid, effective and efficient implementation of all the provisions of the Convention, and to encourage the ratification by the sixty signatory States as by all third countries. It is urgent, on the diplomatic level, that the dynamics of ratification of an instrument that is universal be renewed, as pointed out by Alain Juppé, Minister of State for Foreign and European Affairs, on February 27, 2012 in Geneva before the Human Rights Council.

The international conference organised by the CRDH of the University of Paris II, with the participation of the experts from the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, representatives of State and NGOs aims at raising greater awareness about an innovative legal instrument, up to the challenge posed by the phenomenon of enforced disappearances on all continents. The preventive aspect of the Convention which sets up mechanisms for monitoring and early warning systems, is an essential input, as well as its role of consolidating the rule of law and fighting against impunity in post-crisis contexts.

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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
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Université Panthéon-Assas

AMBASSADE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE EN FRANCE

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL PERSONS FROM ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

The issues of a universal and effective implementation

Tuesday, 15 May 2012

French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
Ministerial conference centre
27 rue de la Convention - 75015 Paris
(métro: Javel line 10 - Boucicaut line 8)

Simultaneous interpretation will be provide in English, Spanish and French

International conference organised by the Research Centre on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (CRDH) of the University Paris II, sponsored by French and Argentinean governments

Prior registration is required. Please contact CRDH :
cedparis2012@gmail.com

PROGRAMME

Welcoming of the participants 8h30 - 9h00

I - OFFICIAL OPENING : 9h00 – 10h00

Nicolas de RIVIERE, director for United Nations and International Organisations, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs (France)
Federico VILLEGAS-BELTRÁN, director of Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Argentina)
Laura DUPUY LASSERRE, president of the Human Rights Council
Mary Aileen BACALSO, president of the International Coalition Against Enforced Disappearances
Emmanuel DECAUX, chairman of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances

Break 10h00 - 10h30

II - THE ISSUES OF THE RATIFICATION AND THE TRANSPOSITION OF THE CONVENTION INTO NATIONAL LAW : 10h30 – 12h30.
chaired by **Juan José LOPEZ ORTEGA**, member of the CED

Gabriella CITRONI, University of Milano, legal Adviser of the FEDEFAM: *The innovative approach of the Convention*
Luciano HAZAN, rapporteur of the CED : *The challenges of adapting to national law*
Minerva MARTINEZ GARZA, president of the Nuevo León State Human Rights Commission (Mexico) : *The experience of the national human rights institutions*
Stéphanie BARBOUR, Amnesty International : *The NGO's expectations*

Debate

Lunch 12h30 - 14h30

III – POSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM AND COOPERATION WITH OTHER MECHANISMS : 14h30 – 16h00
chaired by **Mamadou CAMARA**, vice-chair of the CED

Christine CHANET, member and former president of the Human Rights Committee: *The jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee related to enforced disappearances*
Olivier de FROUVILLE, chair-rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances : *The complementarity between the WGEID and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances*
Anne Marie LA ROSA, CICR: *Prevention of enforced disappearances: the ICRC's experience*
Marta OCAMPO DE VASQUEZ, representativeof Madres de Plaza de Mayo: *The action of the victims' families*

Debate

Break 16h00 - 16h30

IV– UNIVERSAL VOCATION OF THE CONVENTION AND GUARANTEES IN THE REGIONAL FRAMEWORK : 16h30 – 18h00
chaired by **Suela JANINA**, vice-chair of the CED

Laurence BURGORGUE-LARSEN, professor at the University of Paris I: *The jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding enforced disappearances*
Bojana URUMOVA, deputy to the Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights (CdE): *The work of the Commissioner for human rights on enforced disappearances and the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights*
Fatsah OUGUERGOUZ, African Court of Human and People's Rights: *The African mechanisms for the protection against enforced disappearances*
Antoine BERNARD, executive director of FIDH: *Gaps in the international protection*

Debate

CONCLUSIONS by **Estela BARNES DE CARLOTTO**, president of Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo and **Louis JOINET**, ex special rapporteur on impunity