

Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition

November 2010 Update

ACTIVITIES

1. *Latin American Conference on Women Human Rights Defenders, 25 November, Madrid, Spain*

The Coordinator represented the Coalition at a conference on Women Human Rights Defenders at Risk in Latin America: Resolution 1325 and other protection mechanisms for women in conflict areas. The conference, organised by civil society groups in Spain including PBI, a member of the Coalition, brought together over 100 representatives from the Spanish government, members of the academe, civil society organisations and women human rights defenders from Columbia and Guatemala to discuss issues on peace and development as they relate to women's human rights. The Coordinator presented a paper "Mobilising for Peace as Women Human Rights Defenders: Critical Reflections on UNSCR 1325", which reflects on the relevance of the defenders' framework in advancing the advocacy for peace

<http://www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org/resources.php>

2. *International Day for Women Human Rights Defenders, November 29*

As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence, members of the Coalition participated in the Global Day of Action against Militarism and Violence against Women. For this year's Campaign, participants have been asked to organise public vigils, nonviolent demonstrations, or peaceful marches in a show of global solidarity.

<http://16dayscwg.rutgers.edu/2010-campaign/global-day-of-action> The Coalition issued a Statement on the intersections of Militarism, Violence against Women and Security for Women Human Rights Defenders. Other members and partners of the Coalition also issued statements and organised actions mobilising concerns around women human rights defenders. The statements are uploaded in the whrd website <http://www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org/>

Urgent Appeals

The Coalition issued a joint statement:

Call for the Iranian authorities to release Nasrin Sotoudeh and other lawyers defending women's rights detained arbitrarily http://www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org/iran_nasrin_sotoudeh.php

Through the efforts of AI and other members of the Coalition, the High Commissioner on Human Rights issued a statement expressing concern for the fate of human rights defenders in Iran, particularly Nasrin Sotoudeh, whose case she called part of a much broader crackdown on defense lawyers for defenders http://www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org/un_iranian_crackdown.php

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2- 4 Dec: Forum Asia Asian Consultation on Human Rights Defenders, Manila, Philippines |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 – 6 Dec: WHRD IC Working Group meetings, Manila, Philippines |

See full calendar at:

http://www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org/pdf/whrd_ic_calendar2010.pdf

30 November 2010

Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition

Secretariat

www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org