

URGENT ACTION

DETAINEE'S FATE AND WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

Raúl Isaías Baduel was unexpectedly taken from his cell at Ramo Verde National Military Detention Centre, Caracas, at dawn on 8 August 2017. There has been no information regarding his whereabouts since.

The whereabouts of **Raúl Isaías Baduel**, a retired general of the Armed Forces who had been detained in Ramo Verde Military Detention Centre since 12 January 2017, have been unknown since 8 August 2017. The authorities refuse to share any information they have with his family and lawyers. According to sources in Ramo Verde Military Detention Centre, Raúl Isaías Baduel was removed from his cell on the morning of 8 August, at approximately 5:30am, and taken to an unknown location.

Raúl Isaías Baduel was last seen by his family on 6 August and, according to his lawyer, was in good health at the time. However, seeing as the authorities are unwilling to disclose his fate and whereabouts, his family and lawyers fear for his life and personal integrity.

Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

- Demanding the authorities immediately provide information on the fate and whereabouts of Raúl Isaías Baduel and ensure his physical and mental integrity are protected;
- Demanding they immediately grant him free and private access to his family, and lawyers of his choosing;
- Urging them to ensure full respect of Raúl Isaías Baduel's rights.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 22 SEPTEMBER 2017 TO:

Minister of the Interior and Justice

Gen. (Ej.) Néstor Luis Reverol Torres
Ministerio del Interior y Justicia Avenida
Urdaneta Esquina de Platanal Edificio
Interior y Justicia Despacho del Ministro
Caracas, Venezuela
Fax: +58 212 506 1685

Salutation: Señor Ministro/Dear Minister

Minister of Defense

Chief General Vladimir Padrino
Fuerte Tiuna, Edif. Sede del Ministerio del
Poder Popular para la Defensa,
Caracas, Distrito Capital, Venezuela
Email: mppdrrii@gmail.com
Twitter: @vladimirpadrino

Salutation: Dear General/ Señor General

And Copies to:

Amnesty International Venezuela
Email: info@aiven.org

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. HIS EXCELLENCY ROCÍO MANEIRO, Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 1 Cromwell Road SW7 2HW, 020 7584 4206 or 020 7581 2776, Fax 020 7589 8887, despacho.londres@mppre.gob.ve embavenezuk@venezlon.co.uk info@venezlon.co.uk <http://reinounido.embajada.gob.ve/>

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Raul Isaías Baduel is a retired general of the Armed Forces and former Minister of Defense of Venezuela, who retired in 2007, and has since been a public critic of the current government. In 2006, after a trial under military law, he was sentenced to seven years and 11 months by a military court.

Raúl Isaías Baduel has been imprisoned since 2009 for a range of charges, which are widely considered to have been politically motivated given his public opposition to government policies. In 2016, he was granted parole which was then suddenly revoked on 12 January 2017.

On 3 March 2017 he was set to complete his prison sentence, but the day before his scheduled release a military court found him guilty of treason and military rebellion and issued him with a new prison sentence. After this new sentence, the former general was kept incommunicado for an extended period of time, a violation which Amnesty International denounced in Urgent Action 33/17.

His son, Raúl Emilio Baduel, was arbitrarily detained in March 2014 during a peaceful protest in the city of Maracay, in central Venezuela, during the massive demonstrations held by both government supporters and protestors. He has been in detention since and his lawyers have reported repeated instances of Raúl Emilio Baduel being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

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