



WCED Pledges

Professionals, academics and individuals

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Mass Grave Protection, Investigation and Engagement (MaGPIE)

The Mass Grave Protection, Investigation and Engagement (MaGPIE) project is based at Bournemouth University and is led by Professor Melanie Klinkner. The team at MaGPIE support the aims of the Convention against Enforced Disappearances, welcomes the opportunity to engage with the first World Congress on Enforced Disappearances and **pledges the following:**

We will document and present – in an open-source format where safe to do so – the locations of mass grave sites through the production of the world’s first global mass grave map, thereby providing a form of site protection and memorialisation, helping to counter revisionism and ensuring an historic record. The map will serve to raise awareness of the issue of enforced disappearances and help families who are seeking justice.

- Allied to goals: 2.8, 3.9, 5.4, 5.8 and 7.4.
- Resources: we have a dedicated team of expert data analysts
- Expected deadline for delivery: 31.12.27

In addition:

We will strengthen the capacity of victims and organization involved in mass grave documentation through the continued dissemination of mass grave mapping tools.

We will support, organise and/or participate in activities aimed at exchanging experiences, learning and good practices related to the fight against enforced disappearances, with particular reference to mass grave prevention, protection and justice responses, encompassing the migratory context. This will include the production and publication of expert-led and practice-informed research and guidance, the convening of expert symposia and conference presentations.

We will include in our teaching topics related to the disappearance of persons and the formation of mass graves from a legal and forensic standpoint.

We will create research proposals to support research on the phenomenon of enforced disappearance and mass graves.

- Allied to goals: 2.5, 2.8, 3.9, 5.8, 5.10, 5.14, 7.4 and 7.7.



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- Resources: A multidisciplinary team of academics and expert practitioners and through engagement with fellow academics and practitioners. Research funding has been secured.
- Expected deadline for delivery: ongoing.

Paris Human Rights Center

The Paris Human Rights Center, together with the Centre Thucydide and the Institut de criminologie et de Droit pénal de Paris (ICP) from Paris-Panthéon-Assas University are organizing a panel on Enforced Disappearances and International Criminal Justice in the context of the 10th International Criminal Justice Days, on the 30th of January 2025. This will come as an immediate follow-up to the World Congress and also to a side-event to the ICC-Assembly of States parties which took place on the 5th of December 2024 in The Hague. The goal of the panel will be to reflect on existing practices, and also to current obstacles to the development of criminal prosecutions against enforced disappearances, and how to overcome them.

The program of the panel is the following:

DISPARITIONS FORCEES ET JUSTICE PENALE INTERNATIONALE

Présidence : Olivier DE FROUVILLE

- Bringing perpetrators to justice : reflection on the constitutive elements of the crime
 - o Ana SROVIN CORALI, Phd candidate, Graduate institute
- La perspective genevoise sur le crime de disparition forcée
 - o Hélène TIGROUDJA, Professeur à l'Université d'Aix-Marseille, Membre du Comité des droits de l'Homme des Nations Unies
- Poursuivre les disparitions forcées sur le fondement de la compétence extraterritoriale : le cas de la France
 - o Clémence BECTARTE, avocate au Barreau de Paris, coordinatrice du Groupe d'Action Judiciaire, FIDH

Débats et pause

- Poursuivre les disparitions forcées devant les tribunaux internationaux et hybrides basés à La Haye (TPIY, CPI, CSK)
 - o (TBC) Julian NICHOLLS, Senior Trial Lawyer, Bureau du Procureur, Cour pénale internationale
- Poursuivre les disparitions forcées devant la Cour pénale spéciale centrafricaine
 - o Olivier BEAUVALLET, Vice-Président de la Cour pénale spéciale de la République centrafricaine

Activities of the proposed Action Plan to which the pledge refers: Action 1 : Strengthening legal and institutional frameworks to fight against impunity and ensure accountability



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Indicators: 1. The panel is effectively organized, 2. a publication will follow within one year, 3. Participants will be part of a future network of practitioners and academics to develop common positions and practices, 3. ultimately this will raise the number of prosecutions based on the crime of enforced disappearances

Resource implications: Traveling and accommodation of the participants to the conference are supported by the organizers

Expected timeframe: 30/01/2025

Universidad de Barcelona – PhD Candidate

Focus country: Mexico

Ni vivos ni muertos; Desapariciones forzadas en Jalisco

Las desapariciones forzadas son una grave violación de los derechos humanos, consideradas como un crimen de lesa humanidad, y su combate efectivo es un compromiso internacional. Pese a la existencia de tratados y convenios internacionales que buscan prevenir, sancionar y erradicar este fenómeno, México continúa enfrentando una crisis de desapariciones, particularmente en estados como Jalisco, donde los mecanismos internacionales parecen ineficaces o insuficientemente aplicados.

Esta investigación se centrará en cómo los instrumentos internacionales se han convertido en una limitante al momento de dar seguimiento e identificar las causas institucionales, políticas y jurídicas de las desapariciones forzadas, estudiadas como fenómeno histórico, jurídico, político y social desde el ámbito internacional hasta el local; esto no solo contribuirá a la comprensión académica de las tensiones entre el derecho internacional y los marcos normativos locales, sino que también expondrá la necesidad de fortalecer los mecanismos de protección de los derechos humanos.

Identificar y superar las limitaciones de los marcos jurídicos internacionales es imprescindible en un Estado donde miles de personas siguen desaparecidas y la impunidad prevalece; es una tarea crítica para avanzar en la búsqueda de la justicia y reparación para las víctimas y sus familiares.

Activities of the proposed Action Plan to which the pledge refers: 1.4 Mejorar la cooperación internacional en relación con la búsqueda de personas desaparecidas y los procedimientos penales a nivel nacional e internacional; 1.5 Mejorar la cooperación internacional para apoyar a las víctimas de desapariciones forzadas

Expected timeframe: 10/10/2026

Regional Human Rights Defender in the Federal Public Defender's Office of Brazil

Support the adoption of legislation to make enforced disappearance a separate offence

As a Regional Human Rights Defender in the State of São Paulo and member of the Strategic Litigation Committee of the Human Rights National Council, I will be able to meet with several



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civil society representatives and take their demands to the Parliament where the project to adopt legislation to make enforced disappearance a separate offence is suspended.

Activities of the proposed Action Plan to which the pledge refers: The pledge refers to activities 1.3.1 and 5.5 of the Plan of Action.

Indicators: Records of meetings with civil society representatives and members of parliament.

Resource implications: Technical notes, meetings with civil society representatives and members of parliament.

Expected timeframe: 01/12/2025