

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

International civil society organisations pay tribute to the Thuthenas (counselor) Miller Correa, reject his assassination, and make an urgent call for protection and guarantees to the indigenous people in El Cauca

We, International Civil Society organisations, subscribers of this public statement, joined the voices of rejection for the assassination of the Senior Counselor of the Association of Indigenous Councils of North Cauca (ACIN) Miller Correa, the traditional authority of the indigenous reservation of Tacueyó and coordinator of the Nasa project life plan, which occurred last Monday 14 March in Popayan.

Our solidarity goes with the family, the Association of Indigenous Councils of North Cauca - ACIN, and with the Nasa community which has been a target of systematic exterminations.

This new aggression against the indigenous communities in Cauca is part of a long list of attacks against human rights defender (HRDs) and the signatories of the peace agreement in Colombia who, according to figures from Indepaz¹ – up to March 7, 2022 - there are 36 and 7 respectively. In addition to this situation, only in 2022 there have been 20 massacres with 61 victims.

We call for a full investigation that allows relevant authorities to identify and bring to justice the material and intellectual responsibility for this heinous crime that also constitutes an

¹ [LÍDERES SOCIALES, DEFENSORES DE DD.HH Y FIRMANTES DE ACUERDO ASESINADOS EN 2022 – Indepaz](#)

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attack against collective processes and the defence of mother earth led by the indigenous communities of the Cauca.

We also call state entities to act upon the constant messages of concern and protection requests, raised by the indigenous communities, leaders, and social leaders, who face permanent threats due to the nature of their work in defence of human rights, rights to autonomy, land, and territory.

We encourage the international community in Colombia, diplomatic corps and the United Nations system to urge the Colombian government to give a prompt, effective and comprehensive response to the difficult humanitarian situation and the state of human rights in Cauca. This is in accordance with the binding commitments from the international treaties signed by the Colombian State.

We, international civil society organisations, reiterate our commitment to the thriving people of Cauca and we stay on constant alert to bring peace to the Cauca and the country.

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