

ORAL QUESTION H-0430/03

for Question Time at the part-session in July 2003
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Laura González Álvarez
to the Commission

Subject: Colombia, paramilitaries and impunity

Panama has recently expelled a large number of Colombian refugees who are now in extreme danger because they have fallen into the hands of paramilitary groups in the Choco region who are acting with the connivance of sections of the Colombian army.

It would appear that the Colombian Government has failed to take any steps which would prevent the paramilitaries from acting with impunity.

What action is the Commission taking in order to ensure that, pursuant to UN recommendations, the Colombian Government combats the paramilitaries by prosecuting and punishing those who belong to or support them?

Has the Commission been able to make any progress in its efforts to promote justice and combat impunity, pursuant to its strategic plan for Colombia? Do the controversial decisions taken by the country's current Attorney-General not constitute an obstacle to the fight against impunity?

Tabled: 19.06.2003
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