



**Otto Pérez Molina**

Presidente

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Mr President,

On behalf of Public Services International (PSI), a global union organisation which brings together more than 20 million public sector workers in 150 countries worldwide, I write to express our outrage and sorrow concerning the murders of two more union members in Guatemala. A brutal campaign of assassination and intimidation is being conducted against our members and we demand justice in their names. We call on you to take immediate action to prevent any more deaths and to stop this bloody campaign against trade unionists which brings such shame to Guatemala.

On 21 March, at about 18:30 hours, Santa Alvarado, 45 years old, finished her work shift in the kitchen of National Hospital Tonicapán. Moments after her husband picked her up, their vehicle was intercepted by armed masked men. The husband was threatened and thrown out of the vehicle. The car was found later and Alvarado was discovered inside strangled to death. She leaves behind two young toddlers. Alvarado was a member of the National Health Workers' Union of Guatemala (*Sindicato Nacional Trabajadores de la Salud de Guatemala* – SNTSG), which is affiliated to PSI. This follows on the murder of Carlos Hernandez Mendoza, executive member of SNTSG, on 8 March 2013. Some five other members of SNTSG were also murdered in the last year.

We have also learned that Kira Zulueta Enriquez Mena, General Secretary of the Municipal Workers of Nueva Concepción of the department of Escuintla, was assassinated at the library where she worked on 22 March.

We believe the shocking violations of human rights and international labour conventions in Guatemala provide grounds for suspension of the European Union Central American Association Agreement (EU-CAAA), particularly in regard to the EU's [General System of Preferences](#). We are taking this claim to the EU Members of Parliament at this moment.

We are outraged by the claims of your government that these murders have nothing to do with the activism of trade union members. These systematic attacks on trade union leaders have been presented to the International Labour Organization, but until now your government has done nothing to stop this wave of terror. We ask you to take immediate action to stop all violence towards trade unions and their members, and ensure their rights under international law are upheld.

Most sincerely,

Rosa Pavanelli

General Secretary