



**Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Menschenrechte**  
Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights

Vienna, 20 March 2008

To whom it may concern:

As the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture and Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Vienna, I kindly request you to support the project to expand the activities of the worldwide network "Justice heals - The international fight against impunity" in order to prosecute perpetrators and authors of severe human rights violations.

The target of the project is to hold perpetrators accountable for the crimes they have committed in order to stop the systematic worldwide impunity, one of the key obstacles for survivors to overcome their traumatic experiences. Torture as a target crime links several forms of severe human rights violations such as political imprisonment, forced disappearance, political killings, warcrimes and genocide.

The worldwide network of "Justice heals" includes organizations of survivors, family members of victims, lawyers and psychosocial groups intending to combat impunity. The international coordination office for the project is conducted by the German NGO "Medical Care Service for Refugees" in close cooperation with the World Coalition against Torturers, a coalition of nine recipients of the Right Livelihood Award, and the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims IRCT.

Given the fact that there is a high need to stop impunity and to hold perpetrators and authors of severe human rights violations such as torture accountable, I strongly request you to support and fund the project of the campaign "Justice heals".

Sincerely,

Manfred Nowak

Professor for International Human Rights Protection, University of Vienna  
Director, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights  
UN Special Rapporteur on Torture