



## Centro de Derechos Humanos **Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, AC.**

San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, México

13 de abril de 2020

Acción Urgente No. 03

versión inglés

### **Arbitrary detention of human rights defenders of Frayba**

According to The Human Rights Center Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, A.C. (Frayba), two of their members were kidnapped while traveling to the city of Palenque, Chiapas, and until now their whereabouts are unknown.

On April 12, 2021, at approximately 7:00 a.m., human rights defenders Lázaro Sánchez Gutiérrez and Víctorico Gálvez Pérez left the Frayba offices in a white Hillux van bound for the municipality of Palenque, Chiapas, with the aim of holding a work meeting with members of the organization Peoples Autonomous for the Defense of Customs and Uses (PADUC) and relatives of prisoners.

At around 9:00 p.m. the same day, Frayba received information that the human rights defender Lázaro Sánchez Gutiérrez had made a call to his family from an unknown number indicating that he and his colleague Victorico Gálvez that they were well, that they were in the town of San Felipe, near Kuxulja, municipality of Ocosingo and that one of his family members should bring a certain amount of money in a private vehicle at 8:00 am today, April 13.

It is important to highlight that from the outset the state and federal authorities have knowledge of the facts but up until now they have not given clear information about the situation.

Faced with these unfortunate events, Frayba expresses its concerns and strongly condemns these acts of intimidation, aggression and kidnapping of Lázaro Sánchez Gutiérrez and Víctorico Gálvez Pérez.

We would also mention that these acts take place in an environment of criminalization of human rights defenders in Mexico and signs of the Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas Human Rights Center. We urgently call on the Mexican State to carry out an exhaustive and impartial investigation of the arbitrary deprivation of liberty of Lázaro Sánchez and Víctorico Gálvez, to guarantee the life, liberty, security and integrity of our comrades.

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**CAMINAMOS CON LOS PUEBLOS.**

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We call on national and international solidarity to sign this urgent action available on the page [www.frayba.org.mx](http://www.frayba.org.mx) and write to the Mexican authorities so that they commit themselves to implementing security measures for the exercise of the right to defend human rights.

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