



## The Massacre in Maguindanao: Impunity and Political Killings in the Philippines

On November 23, 2009 the bloodiest ever slaughter of journalists in a single incident occurred in Maguindanao province, southern Philippines. An entire election convoy of 63 people including 33 accompanying reporters and media personnel was ambushed, and everyone killed. Enforced disappearances and political killings of trade union leaders, human rights activists and journalists have spiralled in the Philippines in the last decade, mainly in the name of counterinsurgency. The Philippine government has armed and employed poorly trained and unaccountable paramilitary groups to combat insurgent groups, handing powers to local politicians who have acted with impunity. With 2010 being the self-imposed deadline of the Arroyo administration to end insurgency and with national elections set for 10 May, there are increased fears of further unlawful killings and disappearances.

The International Federation of Journalists (represented in the UK by the NUJ), Amnesty International and The Campaign for Human Rights in the Philippines are holding a

**Joint Forum on The Maguindanao Massacre: Impunity and Political Killings in the Philippines** at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 3 March 2010 at the Human Rights Action Centre 17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA. Invited speakers include Aiden White, General Secretary IFJ, as well as speakers from Amnesty International and other expert analysts.

To book your free place please go to [www.amnesty.org.uk/events](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/events). For further information contact Shane Enright, AIUK Trade Union Campaigns Manager, Email: [shane.enright@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:shane.enright@amnesty.org.uk), Tel: +44 (0) 20 7033 1569.

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