

President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr.
Biden-Harris Transition
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

January 2021

Dear President-Elect,

The detention facility at Guantanamo must be brought to an end, and any proposal for its continuation or expansion condemned. The US government's use of indefinite detention without charge as a response to 9/11 has been unlawful from the outset.

The impunity that persists in relation to the torture, enforced disappearance and other human rights violations committed against these detainees is outrageous. Torture and enforced disappearance are crimes under international law.

Guantánamo is an all-too-easy location for future abuses to occur. This detention facility should be shut down once and for all. We have just reached the 18th anniversary of the opening.

I urge you to work toward a lawful solution for the detainees still held at Guantánamo by either bringing individuals to fair trial in ordinary federal court or transferring them. Those detainees already cleared for transfer should be transferred immediately to countries that will respect their human rights. Those who suffered torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment must receive genuine access to rehabilitation and redress. Those responsible for torture and enforced disappearance must be brought to justice in a fair trial.

Sincerely,