

Attorney General  
Diana Salazar  
Juan León Mera N19–36 y Av. Patria  
Edificio Fiscalía General del Estado Quito  
Quito  
**ECUADOR**

**Protection of environmental activist Leonela Moncayo and other teenage members of the group *Guerreras por la Amazonía* (GxA)**

Dear Madam Attorney General,

Presently, 13 female Ecuadorian activists from the Amazon region are in danger because of their commitment to protecting the environment and human habitats. The girls and young women, aged between 10 and 19, belong to the group *Guerreras por la Amazonía* (GxA). Some of them come from indigenous communities.

In 2021, GxA had obtained a historic ruling against the routine flaring of gas in the provinces of Sucumbíos and Orellana. The Sucumbíos Court found that the Ecuadorian state had disregarded the right to a healthy environment and ruled that the state must gradually remove the gas flares, especially near populated areas, and pay compensation to the affected communities. Since then, however, the authorities seem to have ignored that ruling. On 21st February 2024, Leonela Moncayo attended a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Biodiversity to verify compliance with the ruling by the authorities. However, five days later, an explosive device exploded in her courtyard, obviously meant to intimidate her.

I urge you to investigate the attack on Leonela Moncayo and her family effectively, independently, impartially and without further delay. Leonela Moncayo and the other GxA climate activists must receive unconditional protection so that they can exercise their right to freedom of expression and stand up for the protection of the environment and their rights.

Yours sincerely,