

# *Amnesty Urges Washington to Close Guantanamo and End Human Rights Abuses*

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New York, January 22 (RHC)-- Amnesty International says Washington's continued operation of the notorious detention camp at Guantánamo and the torture of detainees there is a prime example of the U.S. double standard on human rights.

Amnesty said: "Every year that the USA has been operating the Guantánamo detention camp, it has continued to proclaim its commitment to international human rights standards. If any other country was responsible for the human rights vacuum of Guantánamo, it would surely draw the USA's condemnation. It's long past time for the U.S. authorities to end this double standard."

Erika Guevara Rosas, Director of Amnesty International's Americas Program, said: "Detainees at Guantánamo remain in limbo with their lives on hold for years on end. Many have suffered serious human rights violations, including enforced disappearance and torture, but access to remedy has systematically been blocked and accountability minimal."

More than 150 detainees are still being held at Guantánamo, most of them are held without charge or trial. The first detainees were taken to the illegally occupied Cuban territory 12 years ago after being

captured during America's so-called War on Terror.

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