

President Nayib Bukele
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Dear President Bukele,

On 27 March 2022, El Salvador's National Assembly passed **a state of exception**. Under the state of exception, more than 60,000 people have been subjected to arbitrary arrests, without access to due process guarantees, such as fair trials.

There are documented incidents of torture and ill treatment in the context of the state of exception – including against children – and to date, more than 150 people have lost their lives in state custody.

I call on you to:

- **End the state of emergency** and implement a security policy that protects the human rights of all.
- Ensure that security forces cease arbitrary detentions and guarantee the release of those who have been illegally detained.
- Guarantee the rights of all detainees to due process and personal integrity, without discrimination.
- Guarantee the right of the families of detainees to information about their whereabouts and well-being.

Yours sincerely,