



October 25th, 2013

**Mr. Emilio Álvarez Icaza**

**Executive Secretary of the Inter American Commission on Human Rights**

**Ref.: Hearing - 149th ordinary period of sessions - Freedom of expression and communications surveillance by the United States, October 28, 2013 at 10.15 am.**

The undersigned national civil society human rights organizations, members of the International Network of Civil Liberties Organizations (INCLO), would like to express the relevance of the Thematic Hearing on Freedom of expression and communication surveillance by the United States, and to endorse the document "Written Submission for the IACHR in support of the position advanced by the American Civil Liberties Union".<sup>1</sup> We hope this document will assist the Commission in its consideration into the U.S. mass surveillance programs and their impacts on human rights.

We appreciate your attention and remain at your disposal for any further clarifications in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Canadian Civil Liberties Association - CCLA (Canada)

Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS) – Argentina

Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (IEPR)

Hungarian Civil Liberties Union - HCLU (Hungary)

Irish Council for Civil Liberties - ICCL (Ireland)

Legal Resource Center (South Africa)

Liberty (UK)

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<sup>1</sup> The referred document has been submitted on October 2013 by The Electronic Frontier Foundation, Access, ARTICLE 19 - Mexico and Central America office, ARTIGO 19 - Brasil, Asociación por los Derechos Civiles, Center for Technology and Society at Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Colectivo Contingente MX, Comisión Colombiana de Juristas, DeJusticia, Derechos Digitales, Fundación Karisma, Fundación para La Libertad de Prensa, ONG Hiperderecho, Privacy International, Propuesta Cívica, Rio Institute for Technology & Society, TEDIC and the Samuelson-Glushko Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic