

**Van:** Human Rights Watch <news@hrw.org>  
**Verzonden:** vrijdag 22 februari 2013 1:00  
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**Onderwerp:** Mexico's Crisis of "Disappearances"

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## THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

February 21, 2013

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## Mexico's Crisis of "Disappearances"



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President Enrique Peña Nieto of Mexico, who took office last December, has inherited one of the worst crises of "disappearances" in Latin America's history.

We documented 249 cases of people who were taken away, their fate unknown, between 2006 and 2012. In 149 of them, we found compelling evidence that state agents participated in the disappearances, sometimes collaborating with drug cartels that extorted payments from the victims' families.

These cases represent only a fraction of reported "disappearances" in Mexico in recent years. A leaked government-compiled provisional list put the number of people "disappeared" or reported missing since 2006 at more than 25,000.

Law enforcement rarely investigates these cases in a thorough or timely manner. Their inept or altogether absent efforts to find the victims add to the suffering of families, for whom not knowing what happened to their loved ones causes perpetual anguish.

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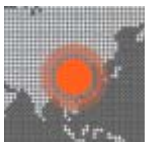


## [In Zambia, Safety Gaps Threaten Copper Miners](#)

President Michael Sata ran on a populist campaign to protect workers, so the lack of meaningful progress in the mining sector is disappointing. Miners still face significant health and safety risks.

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## [In Bangladesh, Post-Trial Amendments Taint War Crimes Process](#)

Convictions of those responsible for the atrocities during the 1971 war of liberation is important for the country, but not at the expense of the principles that make Bangladesh a democracy.

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## [The Netherlands Should Halt Plan to Deport Somalis](#)

The Dutch government should not decide to resume deportations to south-central Somalia until the UN has issued an up-to-date objective assessment of security conditions there. Mogadishu is by no means safe and the rest of south-central Somalia is plagued by conflict, attacks on civilians, and serious rights abuses.

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### PUBLICATION



Mexico's Disappeared: The Enduring Cost of a Crisis Ignored

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