

Confronting Threats to the Rights and Survival of Indigenous Peoples: The Case of Colombia

University of Toronto Faculty of Law

Aboriginal Law Program and International Human Rights Program

Amnesty International Canada *present*

Federico Guzmán Duque

Deputy Justice, Council of State, Colombia

In a landmark 2009 ruling, the Constitutional Court of Colombia concluded that more than one third of Indigenous peoples in that country are threatened with “physical and cultural extermination”. It is a crisis that has continued unabated, fueled by violent incursions into Indigenous territory, forced displacement and the imposition of megaprojects.

Federico Guzmán Duque is a Deputy Justice in Colombia who researched and wrote the Constitutional Court’s groundbreaking decision. He will speak about how this “serious” yet “invisible” emergency meets the definition of genocide in legal terms, what the Constitutional Court ruled and the challenges for implementation of Court decisions. Deputy Justice Guzmán Duque, who has worked directly with Indigenous organizations as well as with the Rapporteur for Indigenous Rights at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, will also address the role of the international community and Canada.

Monday, February 3 · 12:30 – 2:00pm · FA3, Falconer Hall

Lunch will be served

