



**United Nations Human Rights Council
14th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 24 October 2012

**German questions and recommendations to
Guatemala**

by

**H.E. Ambassador Hanns H. Schumacher
Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations**

*Timo Bauer-Seraph
(1st sec)*

Rednerplatz: 20; Redezeit: 2:00min

Madam President,

Germany recognises Guatemala's efforts in improving the national human rights standards, in particular its strive for reconciliation within the civil society. We would, nonetheless, like to draw the attention of the Guatemalan government to two issues.

- 1.) The fight against **impunity** is of central importance for the progress of transitional justice. ~~The Human Rights Commissioner noted progress in the investigation, prosecution and trial of those responsible for serious human rights violations committed during the internal armed conflict in Guatemala. The Human Rights Committee also asked Guatemala to take a clear position in support of the proceedings in cases of genocide and other serious human rights violations~~
 Germany commends Guatemala on the progress achieved concerning the fight against impunity for crimes committed during the civil war and welcomes its ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Germany joins the Human Rights Committee's request and ^{recommends that} ~~would like to see~~ ^{are} **all crimes against humanity as well as tortures and disappearances investigated and prosecuted** in order to bring the perpetrators to justice.

- 2.) With regard to **public security** the United Nations Country Team noted that the number of violent deaths in Guatemala has slightly decreased but is still alarmingly high. The legal framework on arms and ammunitions and its interpretation by the Constitutional Court still allows for unlimited numbers of arms per person and inadequate control over their possession as the High Commissioner stated in his report.

Germany would like to know which concrete measures Guatemala plans to take in order to limit the possibility of acquisition and bearing of arms and the ammunition by individuals.

I thank you Madam President.