## **VENEZUELA**

# GERALDINE CHACÓN

### Persecuted for youth work

Geraldine Chacón always wanted to defend other people. Aged nine she dreamed of being a lawyer. At 14 she stood for her local youth government. And at university she started a network of Amnesty activists. Geraldine went on to work for the Community Ambassadors Foundation, an organisation that empowers young people in deprived areas of the capital, Caracas. 'Any injustice she saw, she fought against,' says her mother.

On 1 February 2018, the 24-year-old was arrested at her home in Caracas by armed intelligence officers. It was part of a widespread crackdown on government critics and human rights activists.

Geraldine spent four months in prison in appalling conditions: she could not even get a drink of water when she needed it. She was conditionally released on 1 June, but her case remains open and she cannot leave the country. She could be re-arrested at any time.



'I've campaigned for Write for Rights cases before.

I never imagined I'd be on the other side of the campaign'
Geraldine Chacón

## SEND A MESSAGE OF SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY

There is no functioning postal system in Venezuela at present.

#### By normal post:

c/o Amnesty International Perú, Calle Manuel A. Fuentes 894, San Isidro 15046, Lima, Perú

#### By international courier service:

c/o Amnesty Venezuela, Torre Phelps piso 17, oficina 17 A, Av. La Salle, Plaza Venezuela Los Caobos, Caracas 1050, Venezuela

Language Spanish, English or French Suggested message Tell Geraldine that she's not alone and has your support and solidarity. Her birthday is 25 Dec.

Geraldine is recovering from a traumatic experience so please be discreet and tactful about her detention. Given the current situation in Venezuela, please avoid political issues altogether.

#### CAN

- Send a religious card or message? Yes
- Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty? Yes
- Include my name and address? Yes

#### **SEND AN APPEAL LETTER**

Urge Attorney General Tarek William Saab to immediately and unconditionally close the case against Geraldine Chacón.

Write to Attorney General Tarek William Saab, c/o Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 1 Cromwell Road, London SW7 2HW

**Salutation** Dear Attorney General/ Estimado Fiscal General

#### In your letter urge him to

- Drop the case against Geraldine Chacón immediately and unconditionally
- Remove the restrictions against her leaving the country
- Launch a prompt, independent and impartial investigation of her alleged ill-treatment in prison, with those responsible brought to justice in a fair trial.



