

# Plea for East Timor

Dear Ed,

I am sure that you are aware of the deplorable violations committed by the Indonesian Authorities while staking their claim as conquerors over the territory of East Timor, which they have occupied illegally as a result of an act of war.

As this occupation continues, the Indonesian government has been practising acts of genocide, seeking to suffocate the aspirations of the population of East Timor towards self-determination.

The of course constitutes a violation of the Human Rights and of the UNO charter.

Therefore, in my name, and on behalf of Portuguese lawyers, I call upon you and upon the lawyers enrolled in your Bar Association to lend your support in order to re-establish an International Legal System recognised by all civilised nations.

Such support would induce Indonesia to:

- 1) recognise and guarantee East Timor's right to self-determination with the least possibly delay;
- 2) respect the Human Rights of the population of East Timor;
- 3) recognise the right of the leader

of East Timor's resistance movement, Xanana Gusmao, to oppose the unlawful occupation of this country, thereby quashing his shameful sentence to lifelong imprisonment - a sentence which was passed by a court which had neither the legitimacy nor the competence to do so;

4) create with the utmost urgency the necessary conditions for a return of democratic legality to the illegally occupied territories of East Timor.

All initiatives aimed at the realisation of the above are welcome but the formulation of public protest in magazines and in publications edited by the Bar Associations as well as letters of protest to the multiple Courts of Law in the International Community as well as to be a more effective demonstration of our condemnation of the violation of Human Rights.

Sending you my best regards and thanking you in anticipation for your support concerning this tragedy which is decimating the population of East Timor, I remain

**Julio de Castro Caldas**  
**President**  
**Ordem dos Advogados, Portugal**

## NOTICE TO FAMILY LAW PRACTITIONERS

Please note orders by default (other than applications for maintenance commencing with a Form 12) must be accompanied by an affidavit (pleadings are not sworn evidence).

Additionally, there have been changes to the method of an Application for Consent Orders. These changes concern Forms 12A and practitioners should familiarise themselves with the changes.

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