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## **US Should End All Illegal Detention**

Letter to the Editor  
The Guardian  
March 15, 2006

We, the undersigned writers and artists, demand that the US immediately cease using the Guantanamo Bay base as an illegal detention centre and to close all of its arbitrary detention centres where the systematic abuse of human rights and dignity are still taking place. As we write, the 62nd session of the UN commission of human rights in Geneva is about to begin and new images of the US military torturing prisoners in Iraq are being published. Yet the US and its allies in the EU have thus far prevented the UN commission from condemning the massive and systematic violations of human rights that have taken place in the name of the so-called war on terror.

EU countries have ignored the testimonies of even their own citizens who have been victims of torture in Guantanamo. Several have allowed the overflights of CIA aircraft carrying prisoners to detention centres and elsewhere. The UN commission on human rights (or the council proposed to replace it) must end this hypocrisy and demand the closure of Guantanamo Bay and all the detention centres created by the US, as well as the cessation of torture and the deliberate violations of human dignity.

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And 407 other writers and artists