

# US Congress: National Lawyers Guild to testify on Torture of Prisoners

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, May 01, 2008

1 May 2008

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#), [Law and Justice](#)

Thursday, May 1, 2008, 12:28 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Marjorie Cohn, NLG President, [libertad48@san.rr.com](mailto:libertad48@san.rr.com), 858-204-3565  
Heidi Boghosian, NLG Executive Director, [director@nlg.org](mailto:director@nlg.org); 212-679-5100, x11

NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD PRESIDENT TO TESTIFY ON TORTURE LIABILITY AT HEARING BEFORE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

On Tuesday, May 6, 2008, National Lawyers Guild President Marjorie Cohn will provide testimony at a hearing titled "From the Department of Justice to Guantánamo Bay: Administration Lawyers and Administration Interrogation Rules," before the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties of the House Judiciary Committee. The hearing will begin at 10:00 a.m. at 2141 Rayburn House Office Building in Washington DC.

Cohn is a Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson School of Law and the author of *Cowboy Republic: Six Ways the Bush Gang Has Defied the Law*, in which she documents the illegal policy of torture established by high officials of the Bush administration and lawyers in the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel, including former Deputy Assistant Attorney General John Yoo.

Yoo was also invited to testify at Tuesday's hearing but declined the invitation.

Testimony will also be provided by Philippe Sands, Professor of Law and Director of the Centre on International Courts and Tribunals at the University College London. Sands authored the book, *Lawless World*, in which he accuses George W. Bush and Tony Blair of conspiring to invade Iraq in violation of international law.

On April 9, 2008 the National Lawyers Guild called for John Yoo to be tried as a war criminal and for the University of California Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law to dismiss him for conspiring to facilitate the commission of war crimes. The Guild also called on Congress to repeal the provision of the Military Commissions Act that would give Yoo immunity from prosecution for torture committed from September 11, 2001 to December 30, 2005.

Cohn said, "John Yoo's complicity in establishing the policy that led to the torture of prisoners constitutes a war crime under the U.S. War Crimes Act." See Cohn's article at [http://marjoriecohn.com/2008/04/center- ...ghs.html](http://marjoriecohn.com/2008/04/center-...ghs.html).

The National Lawyers Guild was founded in 1937 as an alternative to the American Bar Association, which did not admit people of color, the National Lawyers Guild is the oldest and largest public interest/human rights bar organization in the United States. Its headquarters are in New York and it has chapters in every state.

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Global Research](#), Global Research, 2008

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)