

## **GABRIELA KNAUL**

United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers



Gabriela Knaul has been UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers since 1 August 2009. She has over 15 years of experience as a judge in Brazil and is an expert in criminal justice, particularly on issues of due process, sentencing and execution of sentences, as well as the organization of prison systems and the administration of judicial systems. Prior to being appointed as United Nations Special Rapporteur, Ms. Knaul worked with the National Judicial Council of Brazil on a project to develop a national strategic plan for improving the administration of justice, in particular with reference to the independence and impartiality of judges, as well as to the effectiveness of the judicial system in the country.

Ms. Knaul holds a Master's Degree in Public and Private Law from São Paulo State University and an MBA in Judiciary Management from the Getulio Vargas Foundation in Rio de Janeiro. She has also undertaken a human rights course at the University of Nottingham, in the United Kingdom, and has lectured extensively as a Law Professor at the Universities of Primavera do Leste, Rondonópolis and Cuiabá, in Brazil.

As Special Rapporteur, Ms. Knaul has visited Bulgaria, Colombia, El Salvador, Maldives, Mexico, Mozambique, Pakistan, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates on official missions and has participated in several academic and professional events for judges, magistrates, prosecutors, public defenders and lawyers all over the world.