

01/10/16

Berta - Investigation; FMO; COPINH; Criminalization; Journalists; Campesinos; Petrol; National Police; Operation Typhoon; and a Critical View on Tegucigalpa

According to both El Heraldo and ConfidencialHN, the files of the

investigation into Berta's murder were stolen. The press speaker of the Judicial Power tries to calm the situation by guaranteeing that "it is not a problem".

The OAS' General Secretary Luis Almagro condemns the act and demands a thorough response by the Honduran authorities.

MACCIH also reacts to it via a press release.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/09/30/insolito-roban-expediente-judicial-sobre-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1004562-466/roban-expediente-de-berta-c%C3%A1ceres-enasalto-a-magistrada-de-corte-suprema>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/09/30/mientras-institucionalidad-protesta-por-expediente-de-berta-oea-exige-respuestas/>

<http://criterio.hn/maccih-exige-actuacion-energica-ante-inadmisible-robo-expediente-berta-caceres/>

COPINH rejects in a new press release the report ordered by the FMO. COPINH deconstructs the report step by step and presents their view of the situation.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2016/09/el-fmo-y-su-informe-mentiroso.html>

COPINH's work was praised this week by the US organization CARECEN.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/berta-caceres-vive-pueblos-indigenas/organizacion-norteamericana-reconoce>

Yesterday, security Minister Julián Pacheco threatened to capture and imprison all that take to the streets to protest the toll system or the presidential reelection.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/amenaza-oficial-contrala-movilizacion-social/>

<http://criterio.hn/gobierno-hondureno-amenaza-encarcelar-quienes-protesten-los-peajes-la-reeleccion-presidencial/>

C-Libre denounces a new campaign which denigrates journalists of national and correspondents of international news outlets.

The second time this week, a journalist was assaulted and had his car stolen. This time the victim was Guillermo Paz Manueles of Channel 11.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/campa%C3%B1a-de-odio-contracorresponsales-de-prensa-internacional-y-nacional>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/golpean-y-roban-veh%C3%ADculo-periodista-de-canal-11>

Six criminalized campesinos in Danlí, El Paraíso, will know their sentence on October 10.

In the Bajo Aguán, meanwhile, social movements and campesino organizations protested against mining and ZEDEs.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/campesinos-criminalizados-en-el-paraiso-conoceran-veredicto-judicial-el-10-de-octubre/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3204-movimiento-social-del-agu%C3%A1n-exige-al-gobierno-frenar-privatizacion-del-pa%C3%ADs>

The inhabitants of Trujillo fear the construction of a petrol refinery

in their area.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3203-en-alerta-poblaci%C3%B3n-de-trujillo-por-construcci%C3%B3n-de-refiner%C3%ADa>

"Honduras is looking to double its National Police within the next six years, an ambitious yet questionable plan given previous underwhelming attempts at police reform and the perennial issue of corruption."

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-aims-to-double-national-police-by-2022>

The Honduran security and judicial forces presented yesterday first results of the Operation Typhoon.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/09/30/varias-personas-son-detenido-durante-la-operacion-tifon/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3205-tegucigalpa-capital-de-desigualdad-autoritarismo-y-pol%C3%ADtica-vac%C3%ADa>

02/10/16

Berta - Investigation; MACCIH; UPR; Icefi; and the Honduran Penitentiary System

The UN system in Honduras demands an independent investigation into the

theft of the files about Berta's murder.

ATIC announced that it continues to investigate the theft. In the same article, EL Tiempo also writes that later on Friday, all involved parties came together to reconstruct the files and apparently it was deemed ok. But I don't know, if Berta's family, its lawyer or someone from COPINH was present.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/onu-honduras-pide-investigacion.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/atic-robo-expediente-berta-caceres/>

Criterio published a long interview it conducted with MACCIH's speaker Juan Jiménez Mayo. In the interview, Jiménez once more underlined the importance of derogating the Secrecy Law.

<http://criterio.hn/maccih-pide-derogacion-ley-secretos-tropezamiento-honduras/>

ConexiHon is worried about the announcement by Security Minister Julián Pacheco Tinoco to have Monday's protests repressed. The article links this statement to the promises made by the Honduran state during the UPR session at the UN a bit more than a year ago.

ConfidencialHN reports of a note by the head of the Armed Forces, Francisco Álvarez, which gives permission to repress protestors.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n/amenaza-de-represi%C3%B3n-evidencia-renuencia-del-estado>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/02/ordenan-a-ffaa-de-honduras-reprimir-protestas-de-la-oposicion/>

The Central American Institute for Fiscal Studies (Icefi) presented a report this Wednesday, which expressed worries about the current fiscal policy of the Honduran state.

<http://criterio.hn/honduras-impulsar-una-agenda-fiscal-orientada-al-cumplimiento-metas-desarrollo-democracia/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3208-las-c%C3%A1rcules-y-su-realidad-01-octubre-2016>

03/10/16

Berta - Investigation; Toll System; and the Judicial Power;

The human rights defender Reina Rivera Joya warns that with the files in the hand of criminals, Berta's case has become "highly vulnerable".

<http://criterio.hn/expediente-bertha-caceres-esta-manos-criminales-reina-rivera-joya/>

Members of the Military Police were stationed yesterday morning at Honduras' toll booths as a reaction to the announced protests.

<http://criterio.hn/militarizadas-desde-este-domingo-las-casetas-peaje-honduras/>

The Association of Judges for Democracy continues to criticize the government's campaign against some judges. The organization thinks that it is meant to intimidate judges into line.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/132488-mario-diaz-critica-que-jueza-nunez-vaya-a-tamara-y-exconcejal-bonilla-este-tranquilo-en-su-casa.html>

04/10/16

Protests; Journalists; Berta - Investigation; MP; and Honduras' Richness

Yesterday's protest were repressed by the Honduran security forces and

according to ConfidencialHN, 14 people were detained. COFADEH denounces the repression as politics of fear to strengthen the control over the country. The Security Secretariat emitted a press release, which explains the repression as a necessity to uphold the constitution.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/03/brutalidad-policial-en-honduras-deja-en-prision-14-protestantes/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/bertha-oliva-hay-una-linea-de-seguir-calando-el-miedo-el-sometimiento-y-el-control-en-el-pais/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/gobierno-cumple-amenaza-de-reprimir-manifestaciones-pacificas/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1739-urgente-al-menos-14-detenedos-por-protesta-en-honduras>

<http://criterio.hn/secretaria-seguridad-detencion-manifestantes-se-dio-a-pego-la-constitucion/>

During the repression, journalists trying to report on the protests were also attacked by state security forces.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/03/terrorismo-policial-atacan-a-periodistas-de-confidencialhn-durante-protestas/>

InSightCrime now also reports on the stolen case file. Angelika Albaladejo at Fusion thinks that the Honduran government is intentionally sabotaging the investigation.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/high-profile-honduras-murder-case-file-stolen>

<http://fusion.net/story/353241/bertha-caceres-case-file-was-stolen-is-honduras-bungling-this-murder-investigation-on-purpose/>

The APJ demands a bigger share of the budget for the MP.

<http://criterio.hn/apj-pide-mayor-presupuesto-ministerio-publico/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3209-%C2%BFad%C3%B3nde-van-nuestras-riquezas?-03-septiembre-2016>

05/10/16

Berta - Investigation; Protests; National Police; Homicide Rate; Homophobia; and Fire Arms

Berta's family and lawyer held a press conference yesterday. They demand

that the MP ends the secrecy in Berta's case.

Olivia Zúniga denounces that the robbery of the case files is a "message of terror" for all witnesses. And she makes an important point, that I forgot to mention before. This is the second time the files were stolen. Some time back, the offices of MADJ (Víctor Fernández is the family's lawyer) were broken into and the case files stolen.

In the press conference, the lawyer Víctor Fernández reports on a finding, already back in May, of a shirt belonging to the General Attorney in the offices of DESA.

DESA tries to explain it...by saying that they used it as a model to order some shirts in the same style.

Finally, Víctor Fernández told the public that just days before her murder, DESA executives threatened Berta.

<http://criterio.hn/familia-bertha-caceres-pide-al-ministerio-publico-rompa-la-secretividad-este-caso/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/caso-bertha-caceres-no-debe-estar-en-secretividad-si-el-expediente-esta-en-manos-de-cualquiera/>

<http://criterio.hn/robo-expediente-madre-mensaje-terror-los-testigos-olivia-zuniga/>

<http://criterio.hn/oficinas-desa-encuentran-camiseta-fiscal-general/>

<http://criterio.hn/la-camiseta-estaba-desa-segun-jair-lopez/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/04/ejecutivos-de-desa-amenazaron-a-bertha-caceres-en-sus-ultimos-dias-de-vida/>

Mario Suazo, a Libre leader, denounces his arrest on Monday as illegal and violent. Thanks to journalists covering the scene, he was able to prove that he didn't burn a COVI (Concesionaria Vial Honduras S.A de C.V.) car - something the police tried to blame on him.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/04/victima-de-brutalidad-policia-narra-como-fue-su-calvario/>

Almost five years ago, two university students were kidnapped and murdered by the police - one of them was the son of Julieta Castellanos, the current dean of UNAH. Two weeks ago, she and the mother of the other student met with the MP to demand legal actions against the then Security Minister Pompeyo Bonilla for protecting the police agents involved in murdering their children.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/04/piden-a-exsecretario-de-seguridad-que-rinda-cuentas-sobre-crimen-de-dos-estudiantes/>

According to UNAH's Violence Observatory, the homicide rate won't fall this year.

<http://criterio.hn/tasa-homicidios-se-mantendra-estancada-2016-observatorio-unah/>

FIFA sanctioned the Honduran football association FENAFUTH with a

\$65'000 fine for homophobic songs during qualification games.

<http://criterio.hn/fifa-impone-multa-65-mil-canticos-homofobicos/>

According to FUSINA, they have decommissioned this year already more than 2000 fire arms.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/132569-mas-de-dos-mil-armas-se-han-decomisado-este-ano-en-honduras.html>

06/10/16

Berta - Investigation; Int. Pressure; National Police; and the Homicide Rate

I tried to summarize yesterday the important points that had been raised

during the press conference by Berta's family and lawyer. Now COPINH and the family's legal team uploaded a document containing all the important information.

The UN continues to make demands for an independent investigation - linking it also to a recent statement by the Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Rights, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz.

<https://copinh.org/media/documents/2016/10/comunicado-caso-berta-04102016.pdf>

<http://criterio.hn/conozca-la-negligencia-colusion-del-estado-honduras-caso-berta-caceres/>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/onu-gobiernos-no-protegen-los.html>

Mining Watch Canada launched a new petition calling the Canadian government to pressure Honduran authorities to accept independent, international expert involvement in the investigation into Berta Cáceres' murder.

<http://miningwatch.ca/blog/2016/10/5/take-action-honduran-authorities-should-not-feel-canadas-trust>

Codeh sought out the IACHR in the case of more than 300 purged police agents and officials back in 2001.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/05/comision-de-ddhh-de-la-oea-exige-restituir-a-300-policias-purgados-en-2001/>

El Pulso presents more details from the most recent report by UNAH's Violence Observatory.

<http://elpulso.hn/estrategia-de-seguridad-ya-dio-lo-que-iba-a-dar-julieta-castellanos/>

07/10/16

Berta - UN; MACCIH; and Even Less Freedom for Journalists

The UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights defenders, Michel Forst,

expresses his worries about the investigation of Berta's murder.

<http://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20645&LangID=S>

MACCIH has been working almost six months in Honduras now. On October 19 it is required to make a progress report to the Secretary General of the OAS and its Permanent Council. The Wilson Center fears that the report may be delayed and that JOH would first get access to it. According to them, this "would undermine the credibility and independence of the MACCIH."

https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/october-critical-month-honduran-efforts-to-combat-corruption?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiT1RJeVptTm1NVGd6WkdOaSIsInQiOiJvNUg5RG1aYmFJR2NmU2JhREtRRHd5Wk8xdExjcW4

[zTjZOaUMwS3l5RkMxTTB3SUZFcDdx3YzWmNaMmIZNEdKY1B5QjBGVnMwK1h1emNxMlwwYjNJYzl0bzhpQjhjaWNCTGs4ZG5YQUtRbGM9In0%3D](http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2016/10/presidente-hondureno-impone-temas-la.html)

HispanTV denounces a new attack against press freedom by the JOH administration. The journalist covering press conferences by the president have to hand in their questions now beforehand.

<http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2016/10/presidente-hondureno-impone-temas-la.html>

<http://criterio.hn/presidente-hondureno-impone-temas-la-prensa/>

08/10/16

Berta - Investigation; Corruption; Tax Code; Mining; Militarization; Garífunas; and the Toll System

With the theft of the case files of Berta's murder, calls for an

independent international investigation grow louder again.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3220-irregularidades-en-caso-bertha-c%C3%A1ceres-evidencia-necesidad-de-comisi%C3%B3n-internacional-independiente>

Libre congressman Jorge Cálix denounces that the new Penal Code greatly benefits those accused of corruption.

The US embassy, meanwhile, announced that they are investigating various persons accused of corruption and links to organized crime. One of them is an Army official.

<http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-el-nuevo-codigo-penal-esta.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/08/ee-uu-investiga-a-supuestos-narcos-y-corruptos-hondurenos/>

Next to a new Penal Code, Honduras is currently also discussing a new Tax Code. FOSDEH warns that its current setup may turn Honduras in a tax haven.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3219-nuevo-c%C3%B3digo-tributario-abre-posibilidades-al-para%C3%ADso-fiscal-advierten-economistas>

25 indigenous Tolupan tribes face two mining projects in their area.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3218-explotaci%C3%B3n-minera-deja-legado-de-muerte-a-comunidades-hondure%C3%B1as>

Radio Progreso spoke with human rights scholar and defender Joaquín Mejía about the root causes of the militarization in Honduras.

The interview is in part a reaction to statements this week by both coup general Romeo Vásquez Velásquez and Billy Joya that the abolition of the mandatory military service was "an historic error".

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3221-militares-est%C3%A1n-para-garantizar-proyecto-autoritario-de-juan-orlando-hern%C3%A1ndez>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3215-fuera-del-ej%C3%A9rcito-no-hay-salvaci%C3%B3n-07-octubre-2016>

In a report by OFRANEH, they find that 90% of the Garífuna communities in Honduras are affected by mining, tourism and other large scale projects.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3216-proyectos-hoteleros-y-extractivistas-acaban-con-comunidades-gar%C3%ADfunas-de-honduras>

The protests against the toll system show its first results. In San Manuel, Cortes, the company Autopistas del Atlántico S.A. suspended the implementation of a toll.

<http://criterio.hn/ante-presion-popular-suspenden-cobro-peaje-san-manuel-cortes/>

09/10/16

National Police; TSC; and a Curfew

The purging committee asked from Congress to definitively close down the

DIECP. As a result, all resources would flow from the DIECP to them.

<http://criterio.hn/comision-depuradora-pide-al-congreso-cierre-definitivo-la-diecp/>

Honduran sociologist Pablo Carías thinks that the Supreme Audit Court (TSC) is being used by the government as a weapon against the political opposition.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-tribunal-de-cuentas-es-un-arma.html>

Reacting to the violence in their municipality, the authorities of Las Vegas ordered a curfew from 6pm to 6am which started yesterday.

<http://criterio.hn/ante-inesistente-violencia-aprueban-toque-queda-indefinido-las-vegas-santa-barbara/>

10/10/16

HRDs; Drug Trafficking; Liberal Party; the Corrupt and the Corrupting

JOH denigrates once more human rights organizations which criticize the

Honduran penitentiary system.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/09/herandez-cuestiona-a-defensores-de-ddhh-y-parientes-de-presos-en-el-pozo/>

JOH reacts to the announcement that the US is currently investigation several Hondurans for drug trafficking.

<http://criterio.hn/normal-eeuu-investigue-hondurenos-joh/>

Albany Flores writes about the past, present and possible future of the Liberal Party.

<http://elpulso.hn/partido-liberal-el-gigante-que-renace/>

Sociologist Víctor Meza writes about the needed ingredients for a corrupt system to thrive.

<http://criterio.hn/de-corruptos-y-corruptores/>

11/10/16

Judicial Power; Berta - Trial; TSC; Corruption; MACCIH; Drug Trafficking; and the Story of the IAIP

The Honduran judicial system is living, once more, through tumultuous

days. The inspector of the Judicial Power, Marlene Pérez Valle, was bullied out of her job. She is certain that the reason was her investigation of Teodoro Bonilla, the ex-vice-president of the Judiciary Council. Yesterday, she revealed details about structural corruption at the Supreme Court.

The Honduran Bar Association (CAH) invited her to present her case to them, but according to Criterio, they aren't an impartial actor. The Supreme Court, meanwhile, rejects the accusations by Pérez Valle. And at the same time, the Association of Judges for Democracy claims

that the MP has enough proof to go after all the former members of the Judiciary Council.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/10/despiadada-persecucion-emprende-el-poder-en-la-sombra-contrala-inspectora-general-judicial/>

<http://criterio.hn/funcionaria-del-poder-judicial-destapa-olla-corrupcion-ese-poder-del-estado/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1752-inspectora-denuncia-injerencia-de-presidente-de-corte>

<http://criterio.hn/colegio-abogados-sentara-banquillo-los-acusados-funcionaria-denuncio-corrupcion-la-corte/>

<http://criterio.hn/corte-suprema-justicia-rechaza-acusaciones-corrupcion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/132952-mp-tiene-pruebas-para-acusar-a-exmiembros-del-consejo-de-la-judicatura-dice-mario-diaz.html>

The Appeals' Court rejected the appeal by the men accused of murdering Berta.

<http://tiempo.hn/recurso-de-apelacion-berta-caceres/>

OFRANEH criticizes the role of the UNDP in Honduras regarding the Prior Consultation Bill.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2016/10/10/alerta-a-punto-de-ser-aprobado-anteproyecto-ley-de-consulta-impulsado-por-el-estado-de-honduras-y-pnud/>

This December, elections will take place at the Supreme Audit Court (TSC). Candidates still have until October 17 to hand in their CVs and later a committee by congresswo/men will evaluate them. In November, at least 10 candidates will be presented in public audiences. These elections present a first challenge for MACCIH.

<http://elpulso.hn/las-extranas-elecciones-para-magistrados-del-tsc/>

<http://criterio.hn/la-maccih-lograria-prestigio-consigue-conformar-tsc-independiente/>

Through a thorough investigation, ConfidencialHN reveals various acts of corruption that took place while privatizing ENEE.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/10/investigacion-asi-se-construyo-el-consorcio-electrico-para-drenar-recursos-a-hondurenos/>

MACCIH announced that the first international public prosecutor will arrive in Honduras in November.

<http://tiempo.hn/maccih-primer-fiscal-internacional-honduras/>

It came to light that the US is investigating another Honduran army officials for supposed links to drug trafficking. "Five members of the weakened Valles drug trafficking organization are facing extradition to the United States, highlighting the Honduran government's commitment to dismantling the once notorious trafficking group but also the ongoing weakness of the country's judicial institutions."

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/10/ee-uu-investiga-a-otro-militar-hondureno-vinculado-al-narcotrafico-y-corrupcion/>

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-extraditions-hint-ongoing-weakness-judicial-system>

El Pulso tells the story of the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP) from its start in 2007 to 2012. In a coming second installment, the second five year period will be scrutinized.

<http://elpulso.hn/pudricion-y-despilfarro-del-iaip-parte-uno/>

12/10/16

COPINH; Drug Trafficking; Armed Forces; Freedom of Expression; Campesinx; Gender Budgeting; Judicial Power; IAIP; and the Central American Refugee Crisis

In two separate assassination attempts gunmen opened fire against Tomás

Gómez Membreño, the General Coordinator of COPINH, and Alexander García, COPINH community leader in Llano Grande.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2016/10/alerta-intentos-de-asesinato-contra-el.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/oct/11/honduran-activists-survive-assassination-berta-caceres>

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/180892>

"Nearly three dozen mayors, congressmen, judges, military officials and police officers in Honduras are reportedly being investigated for their connections to a drug cartel, a potentially explosive probe that could help expose the deep links between elites and organized crime in the country."

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/us-investigating-dozens-honduras-elites-drugs-corruption>

After the announcement, that two army officials are being investigated by the US for a possible drug trafficking nexus, the purging committee demands a cleansing of the Armed Forces as well.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/11/recomiendan-iniciar-depuracion-en-fuerzas-armadas/>

A chamber of the Supreme Court convicted yesterday Lesbia Pacheco for supposed Facebook posts. Honduran human rights defenders denounce this conviction as it violates the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n-primer-condena-por-supuestas-publicaciones-en-facebook>

Six campesinos were convicted of usurpation of land in Danlí. COFADEH, which is accompanying the campesinos, denounces the conviction as further proof of the criminalization of the campesinx movement. The sentence is not final, as there is still a petition hanging at the Supreme Court.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/tribunal-condena-a-6-campesinos-que-procuraban-un-pedazo-de-tierra-para-sus-familias/>

Various human rights organization criticize that Honduras failed to comply with its legal obligation to reserve a bigger share of the National budget in favor of women.

<http://criterio.hn/gobierno-incumple-disposiciones-ordenan-mayor-presupuesto-favor-las-mujeres/>

Journalist Renato Álvarez presented on television a compromising message of Henry Lara Trejo, the brother-in-law of Rolando Argueta, the president of the Supreme Court.

The National Party, meanwhile, blocked any investigation of Rolando Argueta.

<http://criterio.hn/renato-alvarez-comparte-comprometedor-mensaje-involucra-al-cunado-del-presidente-la-corte/>

<http://criterio.hn/nacionalistas-batean-peticion-juicio-politico-presidente-la-csj/>

El Pulso published the second installment on the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP).

<http://elpulso.hn/pudricion-y-despilfarro-del-iaip-segunda-parte/>

The General Secretary of Amnesty International, Salil Shetty, will present their new report on the Central American refugee crisis this Friday in Honduras.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1530-honduras-secretario-general-de-amnistia-internacional-publicara-informe-sobre-tesis-de-refugiados-en-las-americas>

13/10/16

COPINH; UN; Judicial Power; Electoral Reform; PAC; National Police; Mining; Drug Trafficking; Toll System; Campesinxs; and When Insecurity Hinders Education

After yesterday's attack on the life of COPINH members, the Honduran press has launched a smear campaign again.

<http://tiempo.hn/copinh-merece-premio-por-mentir/>

<http://tiempo.hn/copinh-denuncio-atentado-tomas-gomez/>

"States have a legal obligation under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to respect and protect human rights defenders working towards the realisation of those rights, according to a groundbreaking new statement by a UN Treaty Body."

<http://www.ishr.ch/news/economic-social-and-cultural-rights-un-experts-outline-states-legal-obligations-respect-and>

The Association of Judges for Democracy launched a new campaign intended to last 29 days. Until November 10 the Honduran state should have reintegrated the four judges fired after the coup d'état according to the IACtHR.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/inicia-cuenta-regresiva-para-que-estado-restituya-jueces>

The political parties failed to come to an agreement regarding the Party Financing Bill.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1758-400-millones-para-campana-propone-el-bipartidismo>

PAC's headquarter in Tegucigalpa was broken into last night.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/asaltan-sede-del-partido-pac-en-la.html>

The Honduran government asked MACCIH for help in purging the police force.

<http://tiempo.hn/gobierno-pide-ayuda-a-la-maccih-en-depuracion-de-policia/>

"Dina Meza discusses the human rights and environmental atrocities perpetrated by energy and mining companies in two Honduran villages."

<http://www.sampsoniaway.org/fearless-ink/2016/10/10/the-role-of-the-state-of-honduras-in-protecting-the-human-rights-of-its-inhabitants-against-the-greed-of-businesses/>

Criterion reports on one of the members of the Armed Forces investigated by the US. Apparently his case is linked to Tony Hernández, JOH's brother. And his wife, meanwhile, asked CONADEH for protection from Tony

Hernández and Minister of Defense Samuel Reyes.

<http://criterio.hn/fuerzas-armadas-entrega-capitan-no-quiso-entregar-tony-hernandez/>

<http://criterio.hn/denuncian-helicoptero-cargado-droga-hermano-joh-ministro-defensa/>

<http://elpulso.hn/la-criminalizacion-del-estado-2/>

After protesting against toll booths, Honduran citizen Héctor Efrén Flores denounces that he received death threats by a Cobras agent. Radio Progreso explains why there is so much opposition against the toll system.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/polic%C3%ADa-amenaza-ciudadano-durante-protesta-contr-peajes>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3226-%C2%BFpor-qu%C3%A9-la-oposici%C3%B3n-al-peaje?-12-octubre-2016>

Defensores en Línea continues reporting on the criminalization of six campesinos in Danlí.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/comunicado-existe-una-politica-de-estado-para-someter-judicialmente-a-quienes-procuren-el-derecho-a-la-tierra/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/comunicado-existe-una-politica-de-estado-para-someter-judicialmente-a-quienes-procuren-el-derecho-a-la-tierra/>

<http://criterio.hn/estudiantes-puerto-cortes-no-asisten-clases-la-unah-vs-inseguridad/>

14/10/16

Drug Trafficking; HRDs; OFRANEH; Casa Alianza; Judicial Power; MACCIH; Climate Change; and a Press that Shuts Up

There is mainly one story in today's news: drug trafficking and JOH's

brother Tony Hernández (TH).

TH first said that he doesn't know anything about the accusations. ConfidencialHN believes that the armed forces official Santos Rodríguez Orellana will be extradited as a scapegoat to the US and to turn attention away from TH. Interestingly, back in 2014, the US government lauded Santos Rodríguez Orellana for his work against drug trafficking. Probably to further deviate the attention, JOH claims that there was an assassination attempt planned against him and US ambassador James D. Nealon and that Santos Rodríguez Orellana was involved. His wife, Jennifer Bonilla, demands that the DEA questions JOH about his brother and not her husband. Finally, Radio Globo had a chance to interview Santos Rodríguez Orellana the day before yesterday.

<http://criterio.hn/quieren-danar-imagen-buen-nombre-tony-hernandez-redaccion-criterio/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/12/por-no-entregar-al-hermano-del-presidente-hernandez-ee-uu-se-llevara-a-oficial-militar-de-honduras/>

<http://criterio.hn/ras-acusaciones-hermano-joh-reitera-narcos-tenian-plan-aniquilarlo/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/14/presidente-de-honduras-confiesa-que-cartel-de-la-droga-pretende-asesinarlo-junto-a-embajador-de-ee-uu/>

<http://criterio.hn/la-dea-consultarse-al-presidente-hermano-no-capitan-jennifer-bonilla/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/13/la-dea-me-esta-presionando-para-que-declare-contra-el-hermano-del-presidente/>

Next Tuesday, the campaign "Defending Without Fear" will be launched in a public event.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/lanzamiento-de-la-campana-defender-sin-miedo/>

OFRANEH denounces a renewed attempt by Randy Jorgensen to have Garífuna communities evicted from their ancestral land.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2016/10/13/el-rey-del-porno-canadiense-randy-jorgensen-amenaza-con-desalojar-comunidad-garifuna-de-guadalupe-de-su-territorio-ancestral/>

El Libertador published the speech José Guadalupe Ruelas, which he held in the US when receiving the WOLA Human Rights Prize 2016 for his work with Casa Alianza.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1767-guadalupe-ruelas-narra-terror-de-honduras-al-recibir-premio-wola>

The inspector of the Judicial Power, Marlene Suyapa Pérez Valle, was cited to the MP to present her accusations about corruption at the Supreme Court.

<http://criterio.hn/jueza-marlene-suyapa-perez-valle-citada-hoy-las-1200-mediado-ministerio-publico/>

Nine judges were nominated to collaborate with MACCIH as anti-corruption judges.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/13/nuevos-jueces-ayudaran-a-combatir-la-corrupcion-maccih/>

<http://criterio.hn/apoyo-la-maccih-sera-trascendental-la-persecucion-penal-policias-corruptos/>

The FAO reiterates once more how Central America is being and continues to be gravely affected by climate change.

<http://tiempo.hn/fao-cambio-climatico-centroamerica/>

<http://criterio.hn/prensa-hondurena-no-una-prensa-denunciar-sino-callar-victor-meza/>

15/10/16

Berta - Agua Zarca; Penitentiary System; National Police; Judicial Power; TSC; (Re)Elections; AI; National Budget; and Extortion

"Another former vice minister of the environment, Roberto Cardona, was

arrested today. In 2013 he approved modifications to the Agua Zarca license without consultation. Prosecutors are requesting he be remanded into custody pending trial because according to the Honduran Code of Criminal Procedure, alternative measures to detention can no longer apply in any case once someone is indicted for crimes in more than one concurrent case, and Cardona was already indicted for influence peddling in the IHSS case." (hat-tip to Sandra)

Nevertheless, both Criterio and Confidencial HN denounce that the trial's judge decided on substitute measures to imprisonment.

OFRANEH offers its analysis of the campaign against COPINH that heated up again in the last days.

<http://criterio.hn/otorgan-medidas-sustitutivas-roberto-cardona-pesa-ya-gozar-las-mismas/>

<https://www.mp.hn/index.php/author-login/46-octubre/857-capturado-ex-viceministro-dario-roberto-cardona-valle-por-caso-agua-zarca>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/14/abuso-de-autoridad-jueza-hondurena-deja-en-libertad-a-exfuncionario-en-vez-de-encarcelarlo/>

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2016/10/14/1331/>

The sub-director of the prison in Támara, Jorge Alberto Regalado, was murdered by several armed men yesterday near the prison. According to Criterio, family members and supposed maras protested about the conditions at the new maximum security prison El Pozo.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/14/asesinan-a-subdirector-de-la-penitenciaria-nacional-en-honduras/>

<http://criterio.hn/ultima-hora-ultima-hora-exclusiva-criterio-hn/>

The purging committee informs that 277 police agents and officers will leave the police force under different circumstances.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/14/277-oficiales-son-despedidos-de-policia-nacional-de-honduras/>

<http://criterio.hn/comision-depuradora-cancela-300-policia-mas/>

Radio Progreso spoke with Marcia Aguiluz of CEJIL about the situation of the Honduran judicial system.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3229-acabar-con-impunidad-pasa-por-una-verdadera-independencia-judicial>

MACCIH wants the election of the new TSC judges to be postponed after civil society organizations voiced their worries.

<http://criterio.hn/maccih-solicita-prorroga-seleccion-magistrados-del-tsc/>

Ciprodeh's director Wilfredo Méndez tries to portray the coming elections in Honduras as a chance to fight impunity and send the corrupt to jail.

In the meantime, Congress continues to discuss changes to the electoral law.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/14/la-gente-no-debe-seguir-avalando-ni-votando-por-gente-corrupta-wilfredo-mendez/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3232-inician-discusi%C3%B3n-y-aprobaci%C3%B3n-de-ley-de-financiamiento-transparencia-y-fiscalizaci%C3%B3n-de-los-partidos-pol%C3%ADticos>

The General Secretary of Amnesty International, Salil Shetty, is currently visiting Honduras. Shetty lamented in a press conference yesterday, that JOH refused to meet him.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/presidente-hern%C3%A1ndez-se-niega-reunirse-con-amnist%C3%ADa>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/ai-es-tiempo-de-proteger-las-personas-comunes>

Radio Progreso critically analyzes Honduras national budget.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3234-presupuesto-general-sin-equidad-de-g%C3%A9nero-y-reproductor-de-pobreza>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1535-honduras-presupuesto-militar-pisotea-demandas-de-las-mujeres-y-provoca-mas-violencia>

Radio Progreso denounces the government's failure to effectively combat extortion. Last week two bus driver were murdered near the university UNAH-VS. This led several bus drivers to stop working and as a consequence students weren't able to reach their university.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3231-extorsi%C3%B3n-demuestra-fracaso-en-pol%C3%ADtica-de-seguridad-del-gobierno>

<http://criterio.hn/ruta-hacia-la-unah-vs-unitec-convertida-zona-guerra/>

16/10/16

Berta - Agua Zarca; Coup d'état; Migration; and the Kidnapping of the Judicial Power

COPINH reacts with a press release to the arrest of former SERNA

vice-minister Darío Cardona Valle.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2016/10/copinh-ante-la-captura-del-ex.html>

AVAAZ launched an online petition calling for the reintegration of the four judges fired after the coup d'état.

<http://criterio.hn/avaaz-inicia-campana-mundial-la-csj-reintegre-jueces-magistrada-despedidos/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the current Amnesty International campaign on the Central American migration crisis and links to its newest report.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1536-hogar-dulce-hogar-el-papel-de-honduras-guatemala-y-el-salvador-en-la-creciente-crisis-de-refugiados>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3235-secuestro-de-la-justicia-15-octubre-2016>

17/10/16

Insecurity; Armed Forces; DEA; Reelection; Toll System; and Honduran Farmers Against Monsanto

Criminologist Arabeska Sánchez criticizes the Honduran state's security

policy.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/16/los-esfuerzos-del-estado-para-combatir-el-crimen-no-han-sido-suficientes/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/item/133288-quitar-la-prision-preventiva-por-delitos-graves-no-concuera-con-discurso-anticrimen-arabesca-sanchez.html>

The Armed Forces reacted with a press release on the growing pressure against them and the supposed links of some of their officials to drug trafficking.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/15/ffaa-exige-pruebas-sobre-oficiales-vinculados-a-narcoactividades/>

At the same time, they Honduran Armed Forces denounce the activities of the DEA in Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/15/jefe-militar-critica-operativos-antidrogas-de-ee-uu-no-autorizadas-por-el-gobierno-hondureno/>

And finally, supposedly some high army officials announced in an open letter, that they will protect the constitution.

<http://criterio.hn/oficiales-las-ff-aa-advierde-haran-respetar-la-constitucion-los-pretenden-violarla/>

Padre Melo called for a dialogue regarding the toll system.

http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-padre-melo-propone-una-mesa-de_16.html

<http://criterio.hn/empleada-covi-intimida-tomando-fotografias-quienes-no-pagan-peaje/>

JOH continues to have prisoners transferred to the criticized El Pozo prison.

<http://tiempo.hn/joh-traslado-de-reos/>

<http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2016/10/campesinos-hondurenos-contrasemillas.html>

18/10/16

Drug Trafficking; HRDs; COPINH; National Police; LGTBI; Judicial Power; Penitentiary System; INAM; Education; Constitution; and the Situation of Central American Social Movements

"The US government's recent accusations against several alleged drug

traffickers, among them military officials, have placed Honduras' President Juan Orlando Hernández in an impossible position: between some of his staunchest local allies, including his own family, and his most important international backer."

According to ConfidencialHH, an army general had contracted a hitman to murder Santos Rodríguez Orellana before he could reveal the link between drug traffickers and the Armed Forces.

Instead of reacting to this case - in which he was also mentioned - US ambassador James D. Nealon praises the Honduran government for the Operation Avalanche II.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/us-accusations-put-honduras-president-in-difficult-spot>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/17/general-vinculado-al-narcotrafico-habria-contratado-sicarios-para-ejecutar-a-oficial-extraditable/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/17/ee-uu-no-tolerara-acciones-criminales-en-honduras/>

<http://criterio.hn/atentado-embajador-ee-uu-traera-serias-consecuencias-honduras/>

The Coalition against Impunity declares the bill for the protection of human rights defenders a failure as the government is boycotting its implementation.

<http://criterio.hn/gobierno-boicotea-implementacion-del-mecanismo-proteccion-periodistas-defensores-derechos-humanos/>

COPINH calls for a new protest in Tegucigalpa on October 20.

https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2016/10/convocatoria-marcha-de-la-resistencia_17.html

El Pulso interviewed Omar Rivera, a member of the purging committee.

<http://elpulso.hn/entrevista-omar-rivera-el-hijo-de-la-sociedad-civil/>

Donny Reyes, coordinator of Arcoíris, denounces that political parties only use members of the LGTBI community to appear more open, but that real structural changes failed to materialize.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/17/politicos-hondurenos-utilizan-miembros-de-diversidad-sexual-para-aparentar-tolerancia/>

Luis Chévez, one of the fired judges after the coup d'état, thinks that the Supreme Court won't reinstate them, as ordered by the IACtHR, because it would mean that the court accepted responsibility for the coup.

<http://criterio.hn/corte-no-restituye-jueces-lo-admitiria-responsabilidad-golpe-estado/>

For his web-series, the Irish journalist Paul Conolly let himself be locked up in the prison in Danlí.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1771-periodista-irlandes-desnuda-sistema-penitenciario-hondureno>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7P1xeoVupgc>

Julia Herrera offers her analysis of the National Woman Institute (INAM).

<http://elpulso.hn/el-desconocido-funcionamiento-actual-del-instituto-nacional-de-la-mujer-inam/>

The former Secretary of Education, Alejandro Ventura, was sentenced for abuse of authority and breach of the duties of public servants.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/17/condenan-a-exsecretario-de-educacion-por-abuso-de-autoridad/>

UNAH is currently drafting a new constitution for Honduras, which will be openly discussed starting next year.

<http://criterio.hn/debate-la-nueva-constitucion-elabora-la-unah-comenzara-proximo-ano/>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/modelo-extractivista-el-despojo-de-territorios-y-la>

19/10/16

MUCA; Drug Trafficking; HRDs; Electoral Reforms; Charter Cities; and How Despotism is Threatening Honduras

MUCA president José Ángel Flores together with the campesino Silmer

George was murdered yesterday afternoon. Before his death he denounced on several occasions death threats against him. As many others, he had been granted special protective measures by the CIDH - once more to no avail.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/19/asesinan-al-presidente-del-muca-en-colon/>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/asesinan-al-presidente-muca-en-valle-del-agu%C3%A1n>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-asesinan-al-presidente-muca-en.html>

The nexus between the Armed Forces and drug trafficking still fills the papers in Honduras. El Pulso offers an historic view with the US as a prominent player.

InSight Crime reports on the fact that Wilter Blanco, the alleged leader of the Atlantic Cartel, may turn himself in to authorities. The US wants to have him extradited, "especially given the amount of information he may have on other suspects, including political and economic elites in Honduras."

Meanwhile the US ambassador laments the liberation of army captain Santos Rodríguez.

Honduras Culture and Politics criticizes this behaviour by the US ambassador, writing that he "seems to have forgotten that in a democracy, even a weak one like Honduras, you have to actually charge someone with a crime to detain them for long periods of time."

Santos Rodríguez and his family announced that they will ask for asylum in another country.

<http://elpulso.hn/el-narcotrafico-y-las-ffaa-hondurenas/>

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-kingpin-accused-by-us-will-turn-himself-in-reports>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1775-ee-uu-molesto-con-liberacion-de-militar-hondureno>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1009472-410/embajador-de-eua-lamenta-regreso-de-capit%C3%A1n-santos-orellana-a-sus-funciones>

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2016/10/ambassador-nealon-doesnt-get-democracy.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1009549-466/honduras-capit%C3%A1n-se%C3%B1alado-por-eeuu-y-su-familia-pedir%C3%A1n-asilo-en-el>

Miriam Miranda, OFRANEH's president, was awarded with the first "Carlos Escaleras" Environmental Prize. The award was handed over to her during the presentation of the new "Defending without Fear" campaign. On Monday, the director of Radio Progreso, Ismael Moreno, was illegally detained at a toll booth in Siguatepeque.

<http://www.proceso.hn/aldia/item/133460-lider-garifuna-recibe-premio-en-honduras-y-lanzan-campana-defender-sin-miedo.html>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n-derechos-humanos/detienen-ilegalmente-al-director-de>

Honduras opposition parties Libre and PAC reiterated that without changes to the electoral law, there won't be any elections.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1776-oposicion-hondurena-sin-reformas-no-hay-elecciones>

In a new article, OFRANEH fears that the new World Bank president Paul Romer will continue with his charter cities idea in his new position.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2016/10/18/%c2%a8el-padrino%c2%a8-paul-romer-profeta-de-las-ciudades-modelo-y-economista-en-jefe-del-banco-mundial/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/es/2016/10/17/el-despotismo-amenaza-a-honduras/>

20/10/16

MUCA; US; APP; Drug Trafficking; Journalists; Judicial Power; Spying; Insecurity; (Re)Elections; and Challenging the Toll System

EU ambassador Ketil Karlsen published a press release on the murder of

MUCA president José Ángel Flores and campesino leader Silmer Dionisio George.

The European Union delegation also released a public statement.

The local Human Rights Commissioner for Human Rights condemns the two murders.

The US offered funding for the investigation of the murder (and not murders, somehow they forgot to mention the murder of Silmer Dionisio George).

Amnesty International declare Honduras to a no-go zone for human rights defenders.

And the Guardian also took up the story.

According to the speaker of the Regional Agrarian Platform of the Aguán Valley, Yoni Rivas, the murder is part of a ploy to destabilize the campesino movement and he holds the Honduran government accountable.

See Attachment (3x)

<http://tiempo.hn/union-europea-condena-asesinato-campesinos-del-muca/>

<http://tiempo.hn/alto-comisionado-las-naciones-unidas-repudia-asesinato-lideres-del-mucah/>

<http://tiempo.hn/ee-uu-ofrece-recursos-investigar-crimen-campesinos-del-muca/>

<https://www.amnestyusa.org/news/press-releases/activists-murders-turn-honduras-into-no-go-zone-for-environmental>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/oct/19/honduras-land-rights-activists-killed-unified-peasant-movement>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/yoni-rivas-asesinato-de-presidente-del-muca-busca-desestabilizar-al-movimiento-campesino/>

The Honduras Solidarity Network condemns the decision by the US State Department to declare the Honduran government has taken effective steps to improve human rights. This clears the way for \$55 million in U.S. aid.

See Attachment

Wilfredo Méndez, president of CIPRODEH, declares that the Honduran government lied about the Alliance for Prosperity funds.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/gobierno-joh-ha-estado-mintiendo-la-aprobacion-fondos-la-alianza-la-prosperidad/>

Radio Progreso poses the right questions regarding the Armed Forces - Drug Trafficking connection.

Meanwhile, InSight Crime reacts to criticism regarding one of their Tweets which declared that Tony Hernández is wanted by the US. They explain, that they meant to write that he is a "person of interest" to the US. Criterio explains what this could mean.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3242-militares-y-narcotr%C3%A1fico-algo-no-cuadra-19-agosto-2016>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/tony-herandez-una-persona-interes-ee-uu/>

The same Radio Progreso denounces that a man flew a drone over their building filming the facilities.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/padre-melo-denuncia-espionaje-radio-progreso-eric/>

Televisión journalist Ricardo Matute was attacked, supposedly by gang members, yesterday. According to El Libertador, he is now in a medical center and his condition is stable.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1780-atentan-contra-periodista-hondureno>

The judge and general inspector of the Judicial Power, Marlene Suyapa Pérez Valle, officially denounced the Supreme Court's president Rolando Argueta for malfeasance at the MP yesterday. According to the local representative of Transparency International, Carlos Hernández, there are several denouncements open against the magistrates at the Supreme Audit Court (TSC).

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/jueza-denuncia-al-presidente-la-corte-ante-ministerio-publico/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/19/revelan-abultadas-denuncias-contra-magistrados-del-tribunal-superior-de-cuentas/>

Together with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, CIPRODEH presented a book yesterday on the security policies in the region and the need for a different, more democratic, approach.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/fundacion-boll-ciprodeh-lanzan-libro-re-conceptualizacion-la-violencia-triangulo-norte/>

The political opposition announced a mobilization against the reelection on Saturday.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/oposicion-se-movilizara-sabado-la-reeleccion/>

The Coalition against Impunity and a local movement from El Progreso filed a constitutional challenge against the imposition of toll charges on Honduran highways.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/19/presentan-recurso-inconstitucionalidad-peaje/>

21/10/16

COPINH; Berta - Impunity; MUCA; Drug Trafficking; Armed Forces; Libre; Electoral Reforms; UNAH; Free Trade; and the Story of the Five Apes

State security forces repressed a peaceful protest by COPINH in front of

the MP with a water tank, tear gas and more. What follows is a report by someone who witnessed the repression:

"The repression was brutal and I've been in most if not all the repressive marches since the coup and this one was up there with the worst. Especially since a Copinh member reported that one police took his gun out and fired a shot at his feet. It all happened so fast and no one expected it and there was no time to get children and elderly out. People were grabbing kids and running with them as they were crying and couldn't breathe from the gas. The police also chased protestors for almost 2 km from the public prosecutor's office to the office of Centro de derecho de la mujer and there was no need to do that." In a press conference later that day, COPINH and OFRANEH denounced the actions by the state.

ConexiHon denounces that the former president of the Association of Small Renewable Energy Producers called members of COPINH a group of Mareros, i.e. gang members.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_H-Br2Kwulc&feature=youtu.be

<http://tiempo.hn/policia-nacional-gasea-a-miembros-del-copinh/>

<https://hondurasresists.blogspot.ch/2016/10/alert-repression-against-copinh-right.html?m=1>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/20/vuelve-la-brutalidad-policial-reprimen-a-miembros-del-copinh/>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/pueblos-indigenas/%E2%80%9Cno-detendr%C3%A1n-nuestro-grito-de-justicia%E2%80%9D-aseguran-pueblos>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/berta-caceres-vive-derechos-humanos/brutalidad-policial-en-contra-del>

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n/asesora-de-hidroel%C3%A9ctricas-compara-con-%E2%80%9Cmareros%E2%80%9D-miembros-del-copinh>

Before the repression, Berta's family member and COPINH demanded justice for Berta. Her mother Doña Austra Bertha Florez delivered a touching call for justice.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/a-los-entes-de-justicia-la-madre-de-berta-cacere-les-exige-no-ser-complices-de-la-impunidad/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/20/familia-berta-caceres-no-quita-dedo-la-llaga/>

The Nation Report published a more detailed article on the murders of Jose Ángel Flores and Silmer Dionicio George.

<http://www.thenationreport.org/the-political-assassinations-continue-in-highly-troubled-honduras/>

Jennifer Bonilla, wife of the army captain Santos Rodríguez, denounces the role of the US in the denigration of her husband.
Joaquín Mejía, director of CIPRODEH, demands the MP to investigate Tony Hernández.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/20/los-gringos-hacen-lo-que-quieren-defensora-exige-respeto-a-oficial-perseguido-por-ee-uu/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/20/ministerio-publico-deberia-actuar-oficio-caso-tony-hernandez-joaquin-mejia/>

C-Libre sees freedom of expression breached by a recent statement by the Armed Forces that they will pursue anyone about its alleged ties to drug trafficking without presenting proof.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/fuerzas-armadas-amenazan-con-acciones-legales-contra-personas-naturales-o-jur%C3%ADdicas>

Máximo Ramón Díaz, a former Libre mayoral candidate, denounced at COFADEH that he is being persecuted by the local police in Gualcinse, Lempira.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/lider-politico-de-gualcinse-lempira-denuncia-que-es-victima-de-persecucion-de-parte-de-la-policia/>

Congress approved on Wednesday evening the first eight articles of the new law regulating party finances.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/20/hasta-libre-se-sumo-a-la-aprobacion-de-la-ley-de-financiamiento-de-campanas-politicas/>

COFADEH denounces that the threats at the UNAH against unwelcome lecturers continue.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/jefe-de-seguridad-de-la-unah-intimida-a-docente-filmandolos/>

According to La Tribuna, the Chilean government will support Honduras in becoming a member of the Pacific Alliance free trade area.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2016/10/20/honduras-obtiene-apoyo-chile-ingresar-la-alianza-del-pacifico/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3243-%C2%BF%C3%B3mo-nace-un-paradigma?-%C2%BF%C3%B3mo-se-impone-un-peaje?-20-octubre-2016>

22/10/16

Berta - Impunity; COPINH; MUCA; Armed Forces; National Police; Electoral Reforms; Journalists; Public Health; Maras; HRDs; and Violence Against Environmental Defenders 23/10/16

Olivia Marcela Zúniga Cáceres denounces the fact that the two former

SERNA officials asked for a conciliation regarding the illegal environmental permit for the Agua Zarca project.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/21/perdon-olvido-pido-castigo-responde-hija-berta-caceres-funcionarios-piden-conciliar/>

The US State Department's press speaker John Kirby expressed the US's worries about the violent dissolution of the peaceful COPINH protest on Thursday.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/22/ee-uu-preocupado-por-disolucion-policial-en-honduras-de-protesta-indigena/>

MUCA and the Agrarian Platform held a press conference yesterday, giving responsibility to the Honduran state for the murder of José Ángel Flores and Silmer Dionisio George.

They also denounce the role of the US in the Bajo Aguán.

Front Line Defenders demanded in a public letter to both exhaustively investigate the murders and elaborate real protection mechanisms together with the affected human right defenders.

The Real News Network spoke with filmmaker and video-journalist Jesse Freeston about the murders.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/presidente-de-muca-denunci%C3%B3-su-muerte-por-m%C3%A1s-de-dos-a%C3%B1os>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-estado-de-honduras-no-ha-hecho-nada-para-desmantelar-estructura-paramilitar-que-opera-en-el-aguan/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/21/muca-denuncia-comando-ee-uu-ha-entrenado-escuadrones-la-muerte-aguan/>

http://therealnews.com/t2/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=31&Itemid=74&jumival=17485#newsletter1

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-campesinos-denuncian-ultimos.html>

The Armed Forces fired army captain Santos Rodríguez Orellana. He is convinced that the reason is him mentioning JOH's brother Tony Hernández and Defense Secretary Samuel Reyes in a DEA investigation and afterwards in the press.

COFADEH's Bertha Oliva denounces that the Armed Forces send him to die by firing him.

InSight Crime thinks that this further complicates the position of JOH, "given the US government and the Honduran military are two of his closest allies. Of course, the inclusion of his brother as a "person of interest" in the drug probe makes the balancing act only that much harder."

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/21/cupula-de-ffaa-son-titeres-de-joh-echan-a-oficial-por-hablar-de-tony-hernandez-y-samuel-reyes/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/21/ff-aa-da-baja-deshonrosa-capitan-santos-rodriguez-orellana-redaccion-criterio/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/21/las-ff-aa-me-echan-me-asesinen-capitan-santos-rodriguez-orellana/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/21/cuestionan-actitud-traicionera-de-ffaa-hondurenas/>

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/dismissal-of-army-captain-opens-another-potential-chasm-in-us-honduran-relations>

Two former police agents were sent to prison yesterday accused of having assassinated the two public prosecutors Marlene Banegas and Olga Patricia Eufragio in 2014.

The purging committee, meanwhile, urges Congress to approve the new Institutional Law for the Police.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/22/mandan-a-la-carcel-a-expolicias-que-asesinaron-dos-fiscales-en-2014/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1791-sin-reformas-no-se-limpiara-policia-hondurena-3>

Radio Progreso isn't convinced at all about the content of the law regulating the financing of political parties.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3248-ley-de-transparencia-y-fiscalizaci%C3%B3n-de-partidos-pol%C3%ADticos-%E2%80%9Cno-se-cumplir%C3%A1-en-su-totalidad%E2%80%9D>

Journalist Francisco Ardón was attacked by unknown individuals at the headquarters of the Honduran Journalists Chamber.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/21/desconocidos-atracan-a-comunicador-en-la-sede-del-colegio-de-periodistas-de-honduras/>

Radio Progreso fears that with the Social Protection Bill the privatization of public health will take up speed in Honduras.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3247-en-marcha-privatizaci%C3%B3n-del-sistema-de-salud-en-honduras>

"Authorities in Honduras have identified an individual they say is the top money launderer for the MS13 gang in that country, a development that illustrates the potential of investigations that target the financial structures of criminal groups."

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-authorities-identify-top-ms13-money-launderer>

Radio Progreso reports from the launch of the new "Defending without Fear" campaign.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3245-defender-sin-miedo-tu-vida-la-m%C3%ADa-nuestra-casa-com%C3%BA>

"Environmental human rights defenders are critical to our future but they face unprecedented risks, according to a new report* to the United Nations General Assembly by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Michel Forst."

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20730&LangID=E>

23/10/16

Berta - Int. Financiers; Liberal Party; (Re)Elections); and MACCIH's Obstacles

Berta's mother, Austra Berta Flores López, wrote an open letter to FMO,

CABEI, FINNFUND and Voith Hydro.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/22/agua-zarca-ha-traido-sangre-a-mi-familia-lea-la-carta-de-la-madre-de-bertha/>

Enrique Ortez, a former TSE magistrate and a contender for the Liberal Party's presidential candidate, denounces his own party. According to him, the Liberal party violates the constitution by imposing a one million Lempira fee for inscribing his candidacy.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/21/piden-a-liberales-aporar-un-millon-de-lempiras-para-campana-primaria/>

Transport companies protest that the Honduran state has granted a 'briefcase company' the right to transport electoral material.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-transportistas-de-material.html>

Criterio thinks that the discussions around the bill supposed to regulate party financing, show how the Honduran elite still opposes real change and how MACCIH faces powerful obstacles.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/22/nueva-ley-propuesta-maccih-enfrenta-viejos-obstaculos/>

24/10/16

Drug Trafficking; HRDs; CONADESE; TSC; and Military Spending

General Attorney Óscar Chinchilla announced that MP will cite both

Antonio "Tony" Hernández and defense minister Samuel Reyes for questioning.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/23/citaran-a-declarar-a-tony-y-al-secretario-de-defensa-por-supuesta-narcoactividad/>

Criterio dedicates two articles to the failure of the human rights defender protection bill to generate an improvement in security for them.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/23/ley-proteccion-periodistas-defensores-dd-hh-bandera-del-gobierno-no-la-aplica-video/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/23/personas-se-acogen-ley-proteccion-defensores-dd-hh-deben-pagarle-policias-los-cuidan-video/>

MACCIH will meet with civil society organizations and member of Congress regarding the elections of the TSC magistrates.

<http://tiempo.hn/maccih-magistrados-del-tsc/>

According to El Tiempo, military spending rose 148% in the last ten years.

<http://tiempo.hn/gasto-militar-honduras/>

El Pulso explains how dangerous the National Defense and Security Commission is for Honduran democracy.

<http://elpulso.hn/conadese-el-inicio-de-la-dictadura/>

25/10/16

Drug Trafficking; MUCA; Electoral Reforms; Penitentiary System; National Police; Violence; and Welcome Home MACCIH

A day after the General Attorney cited his brother to be questioned, JOH

tries to use the fact to show that nobody is above the law. But the same time, he says that it is all a campaign to destabilize his government.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/24/joh-pide-a-su-hermano-someterse-a-la-justicia-hondurena-si-es-requerido/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/24/joh-atribuye-vinculos-hermano-narcotrafico-una-campana-oscura-desestabilizar-gobierno/>

The children of the murdered MUCA president José Ángel Flores revealed yesterday that the MP was in possession of information regarding the threats toward their father, but it failed to act on it.

MUCA's speaker Vitalino Álvarez denounces that he has been receiving death threats constantly for the last three years.

In total nine campesino leaders denounce receiving death threats.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/mp-tenia-informacion-y-no-actuo-para-evitar-asesinato-del-presidente-de-muca/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/24/vocero-del-muca-denuncia-que-paramilitares-intentan-asesinarlo/>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-nueve-lideres-campesinos.html>

"The second attempt by the Organization of American States (OAS) mission to reform Honduran laws and improve the fight against crime and corruption in state institutions has come up against opposition from long-standing powers. As was the case with the mission's first proposal, these interests could once again be successful in minimizing any potential change to the status quo."

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/new-law-proposed-by-maccih-hits-familiar-obstacles>

Once more JOH makes clear that he doesn't worry about the voices by human rights defenders as he promises to send more inmates to the maximum security prison "El Pozo".

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/24/mas-reos-seran-llevados-pozo-cueste-lo-cueste-joh/>

According to El Proceso, more than 158 million Lempiras have been paid so far to purged police officials.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/133768-alrededor-de-158-millones-de-lempiras-se-han-pagado-a-policias-depurados.html>

MACCIH has now an official headquarter.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/24/maccih-ya-tiene-bunker-para-combatir-la-corrupcion-e-impunidad-en-honduras/>

26/10/16

HRDs; Drug Trafficking; Penal Code; TSC; US; MUCA; ENEE; Public Health; and Why the Reelection Still is not Legal

170 international organizations and 16 academics signed a card by the

International Platform against Impunity which demands from the Honduran authorities to finally guarantee the security of human rights defenders in the country.

How far away the Honduran government is from that became clear again yesterday. The National Migration Institute (INM) had the Spanish citizen and human rights defender Luis Díaz de Terán López deported the same day he arrived from Spain. Luis had accompanied COPINH in these last difficult months and wanted to return to doing that. But the migration authorities denied lawyers by C-Libre access to Luis and they accused him of damaging the image of Honduras.

See Attachment

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n/urgente-gobierno-de-honduras-detiene-y-deporta-observador>

<http://tiempo.hn/testigo-de-la-muerte-caceres/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/25/migracion-honduras-deporta-espanol-testigo-del-asesinato-berta-caceres/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/25/detienen-toncontin-espanol-supuesto-testigo-del-asesinato-berta-caceres/>

According to ConfidencialHN, Tony Hernández met with the DEA in Miami to give his declaration and he returned the same day.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/25/regresa-a-honduras-tony-hernandez-tras-interrogatorio-de-agentes-antidrogas-de-ee-uu/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/25/tony-da-gracias-a-ee-uu-al-dejarle-dar-la-cara-por-senalamientos-de-narcotrafico/>

Honduran human rights organizations protested once more against the reforms to the Penal Code which they accused of lacking transparency.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/pronunciamiento/>

According to ConfidencialHN, the US embassy warned the Honduran Congress that financial assistance from the US may be frozen if there is no transparent election of the new magistrates for the TSC.

MACCIH pronounced similar demands regarding the elections. The reaction by Congress' president Mauricio Oliva says a lot about the power relations in Honduras.

Meanwhile, a list of 15 candidates has been presented.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/25/ee-uu-condiciona-asistencia-financiera-si-no-hay-eleccion-transparente-de-magistrados-anticorrupcion/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/25/mauricio-oliva-desafia-la-maccih-al-decir-tsc-sera-conformado-los-politicos/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/25/conoce-la-lista-los-15-candidatos-preseleccionados-congreso-nacional-magistrados-del-tsc/>

Mark Weisbrot criticizes the US' decision to certify that Honduras had met the human rights conditions attached to their 2016 military and security aid.

According to a new article in the LA Times, there will be fierce opposition to this decision in the US Congress.

<http://cepr.net/publications/op-eds-columns/honduran-opposition-leaders-being-murdered-while-washington-pours-in-money-to-repressive-government-and-military>

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-fg-us-honduras-aid-20161025-snap-story.html>

After the murder of MUCA president José Ángel Flores and Silmer Dionisio George there were voices accusing Céleo Rodríguez, son-in-law of Libre Congressman Rafael Alegría. Now the MP informs, that there has been an arrest warrant open for him for already two months.

Rafael Alegría demands an objective and transparent investigation.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/133847-yerno-de-rafael-alegria-tiene-orden-de-captura-emitida-hace-dos-meses-segun-mp.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/133856-diputado-alegria-pide-investigacion-imparcial-en-caso-de-su-yerno-si-hay-responsabilidad-que-pague-dice.html>

STENEE fears that some further 800 employees may be fired from ENEE.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-sindicato-de-empleados-de-la.html>

Honduran nurses announced that they will take to the streets if their salary won't be adjusted to the higher living costs.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-enfermeras-amenazan-con-paro.html>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3255-%C2%BFpor-qu%C3%A9-juan-orlando-hern%C3%A1ndez-no-puede-reelegirse-legalmente?-25-octubre-2016>

27/10/16

HRDs; Judicial Power; TSC; Drug Trafficking; Migration; and the Garífunas and Their Right to a Prior Consultation

COPINH denounces in a new press release the treatment of the

international human rights defender Luis Díaz de Terán López by the Honduran state.

Meanwhile, the G-16 also condemns the murder of MUCA president José

Ángel Flores and campesino leader Silmer Dionisio George.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2016/10/copinh-ante-la-detencion-por-la.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/paises-del-g-16-muerte-campesinos-muca/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/133911-l-g-16-lamentaron-el-asesinato-del-presidente-del-movimiento-unificado-campesino-del-aguan-muca-jose-angel-flores.html>

The Honduran government asked MACCIH to help with the purge of the judicial system and the MP.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/26/honduras-pide-a-la-maccih-respaldo-para-depurar-el-sistema-judicial/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/26/gobierno-pide-ayuda-la-maccih-depurar-ministerio-publico-la-corte/>

While asking for help, the Honduran continues to conduct shady elections. PAC rejected what they call the "imposition" of the candidates for the TSC.

Even the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) announced its withdrawal from the election for its lack of transparency.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/26/pac-rechaza-imposicion-de-planilla-de-magistrados-anticorrupcion/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/26/ante-proceso-amanado-asj-se-retira-del-proceso-eleccion-magistrados-del-tsc/>

<http://tiempo.hn/sociedad-civil-se-retira-magistrados-tsc/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1804-congreso-impondra-magistrados-de-cuentas-se-retira-sociedad-civil>

Libre congressman Rasel Tomé demands an official investigation by the MP of Tony Hernández.

InSight Crime, meanwhile, takes up a report by El Heraldo, about the close links of the Honduran armed forces and drug trafficking.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/26/el-ministerio-publico-debe-iniciar-una-investigacion-de-oficio-en-el-caso-de-tony-hernandez/>

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-military-collusion-drug-traffickers-still-issue-report>

Casa Alianza denounces that the Honduran state doesn't have a real strategy to stop the migration of children to the US.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/no-hay-solucion-gubernamental-para-evitar-la-migracion-infantil/>

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2016/10/26/garifunas-y-el-derecho-a-la-consulta-agua-para-la-ceiba-o-playa-para-sambo-creek/>

28/10/16

HRDs; TSC; MP; Electricity; Freedom of Expression; Journalists; El Tiempo; and Patuca III

Criterio reproduced the open letter to the Honduran authorities signed

by 170 international organizations.

NACLA has published a good overview of the recent attacks against COPINH the failure of the US to take this hostile environment against human rights defenders into account when deciding about security assistance for Honduras.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/27/170-organizaciones-la-sociedad-exigen-honduras-investigacion-exhaustiva-asesinatos-violaciones-dd-hh/>

<http://nacla.org/news/2016/10/27/environmental-activists-face-renewed-repression-honduras>

Carlos Hernández, the representative of Transparency International, explains why his and other organizations withdrew from the electoral process at the TSC: Congress decided the last weekend to produce a list of 15 candidates out of 102 without any consultation. Meanwhile, Congress's president Mauricio Oliva isn't happy about criticism by the US embassy regarding the candidates.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/27/nos-fuimos-porque-no-nos-querian-ver-sociedad-civil-no-respondara-eleccion-de-magistrados-anticorrupcion/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1809-presidente-del-parlamento-hondureno-molesto-con-ee-uu>

Nora Urbina retired from her position as special public prosecutors for children without giving any satisfying explanation.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/27/oscura-fiscal-de-la-ninez-deja-el-cargo-sin-haber-podido-resolver-asesinatos-de-menores/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/27/fiscal-la-ninez-nora-urbina-se-va-del-ministerio-publico/>

The regulatory commission CREE announced that energy prices will rise on a three months basis.

At the same time, ATIC is being investigating Coalianza and ENEE regarding the deal that led to the creation of the Energy Company Honduras (EEH).

<http://notibomba.com/cada-3-meses-vienen-trancazos-en-la-energia-electrica-en-honduras/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/27/ministerio-publico-secuestra-informacion-en-la-enee-y-coalianza/>

C-Libre denounces that JOH in a recent speech once more criminalized those making use of freedom of expression.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/presidente-hernandez-criminaliza-medios-de-comunicacion-y-redes-sociales>

The journalist Ricardo Matute left Honduras after being shot at on October 19.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodista-abandona-el-pais-tras-sufrir-atentado>

A year ago yesterday, El Tiempo closed and since then more than 260 former employees wait for their benefit payments.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/27/ano-cierre-empleados-diario-tiempo-continuan-sin-recibir-prestaciones/>

Protests have taken up again at the Patuca III construction site.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/27/incumplimientos-pagos-otras-irregularidades-reactivan-protestas-proyecto-patuca-iii/>

29/10/16

Garífunas; Bajo Aguán; Drug Trafficking, US; Judicial Power; Toll System; Migration; Privatizations; Thermal Energy; and the Regional Crime Fighting

Pasos de Animal Grande exposes and denounces the tactics by business

interests to force through hydroelectric projects on the Cuyamel river against the will of the local Garífuna communities.

<http://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/es/contexto/item/1543-empresarios-usan-medios-de-comunicacion-en-el-atlantico-para-presionar-a-garifunas-que-acepten-hidroelectricas>

Radio Progreso published a long article on the Bajo Aguán, trying to give an overview of the situation there.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3269-estado-hondure%C3%B1o-ser-%C3%ADa-primer-responsable-de-m%C3%A1s-de-un-centenar-de-asesinatos-de-campesinos-en-el-bajo-agu%C3%A1n>

The Honduran security forces caught Roberto de Jesús Soto García, who is wanted by the US for drug trafficking. He is linked to Wilter Blanco and therefore Tony Hernández.

US ambassador James D. Nealon congratulates Honduras for the capture. Meanwhile, the president of the Supreme Court doesn't feel responsible for Tony Hernández.

Radio Progreso rightly asks if really nobody in Honduras is above the law.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/28/capturan-a-extraditable-y-lugarteniente-del-presunto-capo-wilter-blanco-y-tony-hernandez/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/134074-felicitan-a-operadores-de-justicia-de-honduras-por-capturar-a-extraditable.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/28/presidente-de-la-corte-evade-hablar-de-tony-ni-peticiones-de-extradicion/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3264-nepotismo-pol%C3%ADtico-presidencial-%E2%80%9Cnadie-est%C3%A1-por-encima-de-la-ley%E2%80%9D-28-octubre-2016>

JOH's head of cabinet, Jorge Hernández Alcerro, doesn't like the statements by US senator Patrick Leahy questioning security assistance to Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/28/arremeten-contras-senador-de-ee-uu-por-cuestionar-ayuda-financiera-a-honduras/>

Lawyer Félix Ávila denounces that the Honduran judicial system is abusing preventive imprisonment.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/justicia-hondurena-esta-abusando-de-la.html>

Protests are announced for November 5 in several parts of Honduras to demand from the Supreme Court to rule on the toll system.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/28/exigen-a-tribunal-constitucional-no-archivar-suspension-del-cobro-de-peaje/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3265-acciones-jur%C3%ADdicas-se-suman-a-lucha-contras-peajes-en-honduras>

The National Forum on Migration in Honduras (FONAMIH) investigated the causes for child migration from Honduras to the US. They found that 3065 unaccompanied children were deported back to Honduras and the main reasons they left were violence, poverty, lack of opportunity and family reunification.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3268-fonamih-violencia-y-pobreza-motivan-que-ni%C3%B1ez-hondure%C3%B1a-migre-a-estados-unidos>

Radio Progreso discusses the consequences of the 2003 drinking water law, which led to pressures to privatize public drinking water services.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3267-municipalizaci%C3%B3n-del-agua-alarma-a-comunidades-y-empleados-del-sanaa>

The inhabitants of Tela rejected in a town-hall meeting the installation of a thermal energy plant in their region.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3266-en-tela-atl%C3%A1ntida-dicen-no-a-planta-de-energ%C3%ADa-t%C3%A9rmica>

Guatemala and Honduras await the decision by El Salvador to join a regional operation against maras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/134068-los-presidentes-de-honduras-juan-orlando-hernandez-y-de-guatemala-jimmy-morales-están-listos-para-operar-contra-las-maras.html>

30/10/16

Mining; Party Financing; Penal Code; Libre; Journalists; and the APP

The Santa Barbara Environmentalist Movement (MAS) held a departmental

conference on Friday. They discussed human rights, as well as political and civil rights. According to one presentation, Santa Barbara has 86 running mining concessions and a further 300 to be approved, as well as concessions for 28 rivers.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/santa-barbara-con-la-mayor-concentracion-de-concesiones-mineras-y-represamiento-de-rios/>

Radio Progreso rhetorically asks why almost no one has talked about the new law regulating party finances...and answers that it is no more than just another law not being implemented.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3271-una-ley-m%C3%A1s-29-octubre-2016>

COFADEH asks the EU to critically examine their support of elaborating a new Penal Code.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/torquemada-anda-suelto-otra-vez/>

Libre will hold its internal elections today. René Alfaro analyzes the chances and risks of this process.

<http://elpulso.hn/las-internas-de-libre-y-sus-riesgos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/28/partido-libre-listo-para-realizar-elecciones-internas/>

Journalists denounces irregularities at their pension fund.

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/26/exigen-presidente-periodistas-deje-violar-ley-pensiones/>

JOH expressed his hope that Mexico will take part in the Alliance for Prosperity.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/134103-honduras-espere-que-mexico-se-una-a-alianza-para-la-prosperidad.html>

31/10/16

COPA; MUCA; TSC; Toll System; and Libre

COFADEH denounces the murder of Fernando Alemán Banegas, son of human

rights defender and president of COPA, Esly Emperatriz Banegas.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/asesinan-hijo-de-la-defensora-de-derechos-humanos-y-actual-coordinadora-general-de-copa/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/30/asesinan-la-ceiba-hijo-defensora-derechos-humanos-tocoa-colon/>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/10/honduras-denuncia-y-condena-de.html>

La Prensa reports that the MP emitted four arrest warrants for the murder of the three campesinos Víctor Manuel Mata Oliva, Sergio Magdiel Amaya Miranda and Rulbin Villeda Miranda. One of the accused is Céleo Rodríguez, son-in-law of Rafael Alegría.

<http://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1013146-410/libran-requerimiento-por-triple-crimen-en-el-bajo-agu%C3%A1n>

El Pulso started a new series of article with interesting background information about the TSC.

<http://elpulso.hn/tsc-al-servicio-de-la-impunidad-parte-1/>

Padre Melo, the director of Radio Progreso, warns that the Honduran authorities are deceiving the inhabitants of El Progreso by promising them benefits if they continue paying toll fees.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/30/advierten-represion-estatal-tras-beneficios-del-gobierno-para-suavizar-cobro-de-peaje/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/30/padre-melo-advierte-supuesto-acuerdo-podria-criminalizar-reprimir-la-lucha-peaje/>

According to ConfidencialHN, more than 240'000 people participated at Libre's internal elections. Results are expected today at 7.00pm.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/10/30/partido-libre-supera-expectativas-y-llega-a-mas-de-240-mil-votos/>

<http://criterio.hn/2016/10/30/manana-las-700-pm-se-sabra-quienes-ganaron-elecciones-internas-libre/>