

01/01/17

UNA; Violence; Deportation; and Twelve Wishes for 2017

The protesting students at the National Agriculture University react

with a press release to accusations by the suspended dean Marlon Escoto that they provoked the fire from two days ago (see yesterday's news round-up).

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/12/31/tildan-a-controvertido-rector-de-universidad-agricola-de-mentiroso-y-vandalo/>

Security specialist Arabeska Sánchez doesn't mince her words when she looks at the Honduran government's track record trying to lower indices of violence in 2016.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2016/12/30/gobierno-de-honduras-no-pudo-controlar-violencia-y-criminalidad-en-2016/>

Deportations by air from the US increased by 14% this year.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2016/12/en-14-aumentaron-las-deportaciones-de.html>

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<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3390-deseos-para-2017-31-diciembre-2016>

02/01/17

Libre; COPINH; and JOH's Cabinet

Just minutes before midnight on December 31st, Adrián Alvarado, a Libre

leader in Morazán, Yoro, was murdered.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/honduras-minutos-antes-del-ano-nuevo.html>

COPINH addresses the national and international public with some words on "one of the most painful years" in its history.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/01/ano-nuevo-misma-resistencia-indigena.html>

As rumored beforehand, JOH let go at least ten high officials from his cabinet. Most of them will become part of his political campaign running for reelection.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1031419-466/presidente-hernandez-cancela-a-diez-altos-funcionarios-del-gobierno>

03/01/17

Military Police; Militarization; Penal Code; JOH's Cabinet; Violence; and a Falling Currency

Inhabitants of Santa María Real, Olancho, burnt one or two patrol cars

by the Military Police in protest after an agent murdered the 17 year old Edgardo José Moreno Rodríguez.

Radio HRN reports that he shot in the air and one of the bullets ended the life of the teenager.

In Yoro, meanwhile, a member of the Military Police was detained for

shooting in the air, but I don't know it is the same case.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/02/queman-patrulla-y-exigen-justicia-por-asesinato-de-menor-de-edad-a-manos-de-un-policia-militar/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/pobladores-de-santa-mar%C3%AD-del-real-olancho-incendian-dos-patrullas-de-la-pmop>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/capturan-un-miembro-de-la-pmop-en-yoro>

Fredy Díaz Zelay, the former head of the Armed Forces, will become the new Defense Secretary.

One of his main objective is "reinforcing the Armed Forces."

JOH, meanwhile, tries to defend his ample use of former military men for his administration.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/02/exjefe-militar-hondureno-es-el-nuevo-secretario-de-defensa/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/repotenciar-las-ffaa-es-el-principal-objetivo-del-general-freddy-d%C3%ADaz>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica/item/137779-hernandez-defiende-nombramientos-de-militares-en-altos-cargos-de-su-gobierno.html>

The recent statement by JOH regarding the Penal Code can be interpreted as a further hardening of the law.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/137776-gobierno-anuncia-reunion-con-lideres-de-sociedad-para-abordar-figuras-delictivas-en-nuevo-codigo-penal.html>

One change in the JOH administration I forgot to mention yesterday, regards Marlon Tabora. He will be the new ambassador to the US, after having directed the Central Bank of Honduras (BCH).

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/02/no-quiero-que-se-confunda-la-responsabilidad-de-gobierno-con-la-electoral/>

JOH wants to explain the high number of massacres as a reaction to his policy to transfer gang leaders to the new maximum security prison "El Pozo".

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/02/joh-asegura-que-traslado-de-toros-es-el-principal-motivo-de-masacres-en-honduras/>

The Honduran Lempira has lost ground to the US Dollar in 2016.

<http://notibomba.com/honduras-inicia-el-2017-con-la-peor-devaluacion-del-lempira-en-la-historia/>

04/01/17

Cyber-attacks; Journalists; National Police; Insecurity; Campesinx; Reelection; Elections; Intimidation; HRDs; and to Be an HRD in Honduras

Two alternative media, El Libertador and Criterio have been attacked by

hackers recently and the latter is still offline.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1965-vandalismo-palaciego-ciberdelictivos-atacan-diario-digital-el-libertador-2>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1967-honduras-intensifican-ataques-ciberneticos-contra-medios-alternativos>

A further way to silence critical voices is by defamation charges. Pasos de Animal Grande tells how this happened to the journalist Ariel Armando D'vicente Jarquin in June 2016.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1586-se-acciona-un-arma-letal-en-la-cabeza-de-periodistas-que-denuncias-abusos-en-honduras>

El Pulso looks back on the first year of the purging committee and they also speak with one of its critics, former police commissioner María Luisa Borjas.

The purging committee, meanwhile, announces that they are adapting their work to the threats they have received.

ConfidencialHN questions the veracity of at least one of those threats. Omar Rivera, one of the committee members, told the press that of the 2000 purged police agents and officials, 500 have been linked to organized crime.

The former purging body, DIECP, tries to underline the importance of its previous work regarding the purge of the National Police Force.

<http://elpulso.hn/pese-a-criticas-depuracion-policial-continuara-en-2017/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/03/depuradores-ya-se-acostumbraron-a-las-amenazas-de-muerte-de-supositos-policias-mafiosos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/03/depurador-y-religioso-asegura-que-sus-decisiones-han-incomodado-a-algunos-policias/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/de-los-m%C3%A1s-de-dos-mil-polic%C3%AC-depurados-unos-500-han-sido-vinculados-bandas-criminales>

<http://tiempo.hn/segun-la-diecp-trabajo-ha-fundamental-proceso-depuracion-policial/>

COFADEH denounces that the eviction order against campesinxs in San Pedro de Tutule, La Paz, for January 6 violates international treaties signed by Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/03/proximos-desalojos-de-campesinos-y-estudiantes-violentaran-tratados-y-convenios-internacionales/>

Security analyst Arabeska Sánchez denounces that the JOH administration is massaging its security statistics to legitimize the millions spent for failed security measures.

In another article, Arabeska Sánchez speaks about the role of prisons and their inmates in organized crime.

One case in point is the ongoing restriction of journalists to access the morgue, i.e. its statistics, in Tegucigalpa.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/03/ante-fallidas-mediadas-de-seguridad-obligan-al-orlandismo-a-maquillar-cifras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/item/137828-carceles-siguen-como-centros-operativos-del-crimen-porque-no-hay-certificacion-de-empleados-arabesca-sanchez.html>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1971-prohiben-cifra-de-muertos-a-prensa-hondurena>

The former head of the Armed Forces and new Sub-Secretary of Defense, Fredy Díaz Zelaya, scathes those that criticize the silence of the Armed Forces regarding the presidential reelection.

As expected, the so-called "briefcase parties" are thinking about allying themselves with the National Party.

Radio Progreso raises an interesting question to the international community regarding the reelection.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/03/exjefe-militar-regana-a-quienes-critican-silencio-de-ffaa-sobre-la-reeleccion/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/03/partidos-bonsais-se-plegaran-a-la-reeleccion-de-juan-hernandez/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3391-la-pieza-que-faltaba-el-comisionado-nacional-de-derechos-humanos-03-enero-2017>

The TSE annulled some 10'000 suspicious changes of domicile regarding the coming elections.  
According to the Finance Minister, the primary and general elections will cost more than 1'800 million Lempiras.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/tse-anula-unos-10-mil-traslados-domiciliarios-por-irregularidades>

<http://www.proceso.hn/economia/item/137814-mas-de-1-800-millones-de-lempiras-costaran-los-dos-procesos-electorales-de-este-ano-ministro-de-finanzas.html>

The owner of the Café Paradiso is contemplating to legally pursue the state of Honduras for the unjustified raid on December 23 of her café/cultural center.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1970-cafe-paradiso-demandara-a-estado-hondureno>

According to Nora Urbina, the director of the Protection System for Human Rights Defenders, they have received 42 requests so far.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/137867-sistema-de-proteccion-de-defensores-de-ddhh-ha-recibido-42-solicitudes.html>

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<http://www.refinery29.uk/honduras-violence-human-rights>

05/01/17

Berta - Investigation; Impunity; Privatization; National Police; Penal Code; Elections; Education; and Two Penitentiary Systems

El Pulso spoke with Olivia Zúniga Cáceres about the state to the

investigation of her mother's assassination. She underlined the need for an international investigation once more. And she also shortly about her aspirations in the coming elections.

<http://elpulso.hn/olivia-zuniga-caceres-mi-aspiracion-a-ser-diputada-nace-a-peticion-de-las-comunidades/>

ConfidencialHN denounces that some announced legal reforms will give impunity to member of the police and the Armed Forces for hurting or even assassinating people while "fulfilling their duty."

At the same time, Casa Alianza blames the Honduran government for the assassination of the teenager José Edgardo Moreno by a member of the Military Police in Santa María del Real, Olancho.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/04/gobierno-protectera-a-policias-y-militares-que-agredan-o-asesinen-a-hondurenos/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1975-gobierno-culpable-por-negligencia-militar-casa-alianza-honduras>

<http://tiempo.hn/casa-alianza-asesinato-menor-olancho-gobierno-responsable/>

The new Honduran sub-secretary of health, Sandra Pinel, announced the privatization of three Honduran hospitals.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/04/hernandez-manda-a-privatizar-tres-hospitales-hondurenos/>

ConfidencialHN received complaints by police agents about the authoritarian behavior of the purging committee, which suspended some of their labor rights such as December's holidays.

Meanwhile, the purging committee lobbies for a fast approval of the new Organic Law for the National Police. It believes that the approval "will

revitalize the purge".

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/04/denuncian-a-depuradores-por-suspender-derechos-laborales-de-policias/>

<http://tiempo.hn/depuradora-nueva-ley-policia-depuracion/>

Pasos de Animal Grande fears that the newest changes to the Penal Code announced by the government, will lead to more abuse of authority as it decriminalizes the wiretapping of telephone lines by the providers.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1587-gobierno-de-joh-da-vueltas-a-la-ruleta-rusa-pretende-reformas-penales-que-habiliten-a-companias-telefonicas-intervenir-comunicaciones>

As four years ago, the TSE has problems with Honduran showing up dead in their census who are alive and want to vote.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/04/en-honduras-los-vivos-no-pueden-votar-porque-aparecen-muertos-en-el-censo/>

Copemh's president Jaime Rodríguez announced protests by teachers for today. They demand an end to the violations of their labor rights and the payment of their salaries. They, furthermore, denounce that JOH intends to take 10 million Lempiras from their pension fund to build his Civic Center.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/04/advierten-que-el-saqueo-en-inprema-y-falta-de-pago-dan-inicio-a-las-protestas-de-maestros/>

Libre congressman Jorge Cálix criticizes the government's prison policy. On the one hand some prisoners are sent to the high-security institution "El Pozo", while others, such as the former director of the IHSS Mario Zelaya, have a privileged stay at a military battalion.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1973-por-que-mario-zelaya-esta-en-un-batallon-y-no-preso-en-tamara>

06/01/17

Berta - COPINH; Campesinx; Military Police; Extortion; Criminalization; UNA; Corruption; Borders; Elections; JOH's Cabinet; US; and the New National Police

It has been ten months since the murder of Berta Cáceres and her family

members, COPINH as well as a lot of people around the world still await for some justice.

A recently released documentary on COPINH now has subtitles in English, French and German.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3396-bertha-c%C3%A1ceres-entre-la-impunidad-y-solidaridad>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZvgt6HbJRg> (es)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4kjk1CWoGok> (en)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLtHCNQFiY8&feature=youtu.be> (fr)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iS5RR6lPe18> (de)

COFADEH launched an urgent action intended to stop a second eviction of more than 60 campesino families in San Pedro Tutule, La Paz.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/accion-urgente-desalojo-tutule-la-paz/>

The UN High Commissioner's office in Honduras expressed its worries about the death of the teenager Edgar José Moreno Rodríguez by a bullet fired by a Military Police agent. While the office tries to make a follow up of the case, FUSINA so far has refused to talk to them.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1588-sobre-muerte-de-nino-por-policia-militar-fusina-no-atiende-llamadas-de-la-oficina-del-alto-comisionado-de-ddhh-en-honduras>

The former police official Henry Osorto Canales told the press yesterday that the heads of extortion gangs are business leaders and people with links to the Honduran government. Security analyst Raúl Pineda Alvarado calls JOH's intention to qualify extortion as an act of terrorism as "Penal Populism".

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/05/empresarios-y-colaboradores-del-gobierno-jefean-bandas-extorsionadoras-en-honduras/>

<http://tiempo.hn/oliticos-empresarios/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/05/el-gobierno-de-honduras-hace-populismo-penal-sobre-castigo-a-extorsion-como-terrorismo/>

There is also growing criticism of the changes to the penal code that will criminalize social protest. Security expert Arabesca Sánchez warns about yesterday's announced intention to allow telephone companies to wiretap all conversations.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/05/advierten-que-atropello-a-ddhh-con-reformas-penales-no-detendran-la-criminalidad/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/05/reformas-penales-propuestas-por-joh-intentan-evitar-futuras-manifestaciones-anticontinuistas/>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/honduras-intervencion-telefonica-por.html>

A new article by Defensores en Línea offers a good overview of the current situation at the National Agriculture University and outlines a way out of the crisis.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/intervenir-la-unag-podria-parar-la-cronica-que-le-agudiza-crisis/>

An investigation by ConfidencialHN uncovered various irregularities at the medical forensic department of the MP.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/05/surgen-escandalosos-actos-de-corrupcion-en-medicina-forense-de-honduras/>

JOH announced the strengthening of the boarder control between Honduras and El Salvador.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1977-presidente-hondureno-reforzara-fuerza-fronteriza-con-el-salvador>

The OAS has nominated Jorge Quiriga, a former president of Bolivia, to head the electoral observation mission in Honduras. The TSE, meanwhile, announced that the census for the coming electoral period is almost ready. To finish it, they need to collaborate with the RNP. But the former TSE magistrate, Enrique Ortéz, denounces that exactly this institution is collaborating with the National Party and Christen Democracy (DC) to manipulate the census.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/oea-designa-jefe-de-misi%C3%B3n-para-observar-el-proceso-electoral-en-honduras>

<http://tiempo.hn/95-esta-listo-censo-electoral-policias-depurados-podran-votar-tse/>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/honduras-hay-un-pacto-entre-el-rmp-pn-y.html>

Norma Allegra Cerrato will be the new vice-minister for Human Rights and Justice.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/137967-juramentan-a-norma-cerrato-como-viceministra-de-ddhh-y-justicia.html>

Greg Grandin explores in a new article for The Nation the possible Latin America policy of president elect Trump with a special focus on Honduras.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/will-the-trump-administration-approve-a-military-deal-between-honduras-and-israel/>

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<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1032658-466/la-nueva-estructura-de-la-polic%C3%ADa-manda-a-duplicar-agentes-en-5>

07/01/17

Military Police; Penal Code; Drug Trafficking; UNA; Education; Taiwan; and Taxes

According to several news outlets, the Military Police agent responsible

for the death of the teenager Edgardo Moreno Rodríguez will face charges. The press speaker of the Military Police, meanwhile, tries to spin the story to make it the fault of Moreno Rodríguez to have been murdered.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/06/mandan-a-la-carcel-a-policia-militar-que-asesino-a-joven-olancho/>

<http://tiempo.hn/prision-preventiva-militar-mato-menor-edad-olancho/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/06/militares-siguen-justificando-brutal-crimen-contramenor/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/06/mandan-a-la-carcel-a-policia-militar-que-asesino-a-joven-olancho/>

El Pulso explains what exactly the recent reforms by the Honduran government to the Penal Code entail.

<http://elpulso.hn/ejecutivo-blinda-operaciones-de-seguridad-contrapandillas/>

ConfidencialHN reports on some irregularities in a recent anti-drug trafficking operation.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/06/contradicciones-en-alta-mar-merodean-en-supuesto-decomiso-de-droga/>

The disputed Education Secretary Marlon Escoto stepped down, but as a reason he offers wanting to dedicate all his time to his second job as the dean of the National Agriculture University (UNA). The problem with that is, that he is suspended from this work and that students there have been protesting almost 50 days against him.

UNAH dean Julieta Castellanos announced that for the time being, there won't be any classes at the UNA.

Julieta Castellanos also tries to present Escoto's departure as a personal decision.

And lastly, Congress' president announced a new commission to resolve the crisis at the UNA.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1983-renuncia-marlon-escoto-a-secretaria-de-educacion-4>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/06/desautorizan-reapertura-de-periodo-academico-en-universidad-agricola-por-falta-de-espacios/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/renuncia-de-escoto-no-tiene-nada-que-ver-con-el-consejo-de-educaci%C3%B3n-superior-juliet>

<http://tiempo.hn/oliva-anuncia-comision-interventora-solucionar-conflicto-la-una/>

Teachers' union hope to regain some of the lost rights with the departure of Marlon Escoto.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/06/como-docentes-esperabamos-mas-de-el/>

Tomorrow the president of Taiwan will visit Honduras.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1032903-466/primera-presidenta-de-taiw%C3%A1n-llega-en-visita-oficial-a-honduras>

According to a new article by El Heraldo, Honduras earned 16% more in taxes last year than in 2015.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1032881-466/impuestos-de-hondure%C3%B1os-crecieron-16-durante-2016-impuestos-crecieron-16-durante-2016>

08/01/17

Coalianza; Drug Trafficking; Penal Code; Lawyers; UNA; Corruption; Economy; Media; Deportation; and the Three Kings in Honduras

Albany Flores offers a critical analysis of the privatizing body COALIANZA.

<http://elpulso.hn/coalianza-neoliberalismo-al-maximo/>

While CofidencialHN reported on some irregularities in a recent anti-drug trafficking operation (see yesterday's news round-up), US ambassador James D. Nealon praises the Honduran navy exactly for this drug bust.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/embajador-de-eeuu-destaca-acci%C3%B3n-de-los-operadores-de-justicia-en-la-lucha-contra-el>

Congress will discuss the proposed changes to the Penal Code, for example further criminalizing social protests, next Tuesday.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/el-pr%C3%B3ximo-martes-los-diputados-del-cn-debatir%C3%A1n-las-reformas-del-nuevo-c%C3%B3digo-penal>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/07/joh-pedira-al-parlamento-que-tilde-de-terroristas-a-quienes-realicen-protestas/>

The lawyer Marlon Noel Banegas was murdered yesterday morning. He was the brother of Hernán Banegas, a Liberal candidate for Congress.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/07/ejecutan-a-abogado-en-la-zona-atlantica-de-honduras/>

The protesting students at the National Agriculture University react with a press release to the announcement by Marlon Escoto to concentrate on his (suspended) job at the UNA from now on. Eulogio Chávez, president of the teachers' union Copemh, wants Escoto to resign also from his job as dean of the UNA.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/07/estudiantes-la-unag-rechazan-intervencion-marlon-escoto/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/escoto-deber%C3%AD-de-renunciar-tambi%C3%A9n-la-rector%C3%AD-de-la-una-ch%C3%A1vez>

ATIC tries to present its work of the last two years as a success.

<http://tiempo.hn/director-atic-asegura-se-lograron-45-condenas-casos-corrupcion/>

The economist Hugo Noé Pino offers a bleak outlook for 2017, with further reduction of funds for real social development and in increase in debt repayment.

Radio Progreso outlines what would be needed to conquer a higher minimum wage in the new year.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/04/hugo-noe-pino-honduras-entro-en-el-ciclo-de-contratacion-y-pago-de-deuda/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3399-aspirar-a-mejores-salarios-07-enero-2017>

The alternative online newspaper is running again after 15 days of the grid due to hacker attacks.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/07/ya-estamos-regreso-criterio-hn-esta-nuevo-online/>

In the first week of 2017, the US has already deported 367 Hondurans.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/estados-unidos-deporta-187-hondure%C3%B1os-indocumentados>

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<http://elpulso.hn/caricatura/>

09/01/17

National Police; Education; Reelection; Water; and Insecurity Continues to Reign Honduras

The purging committee asked the TSC to investigate 30 high police

officials for illicit enrichment.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/08/tsc-evacuar-celeridad-denuncias-enriquecimiento-ilicito-altos-oficiales-la-policia-nacional-omar-rivera/>

The Academic Auditing Commission of the National Agriculture University reminded Marlon Escoto that he couldn't come back to the institution as a dean due to the obvious fact that he had been suspended.

El Pulso looks back on what changed in the Honduran education system under Marlon Escoto and the unresolved issues left behind by him.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/08/marlon-escoto-no-puede-fungir-rector-la-unag-esta-suspendido-comision-academica/>

<http://elpulso.hn/las-facturas-no-pagadas-de-marlon-escoto/>

CONADEH announced that it won't comment again on the issue of the presidential reelection.

<http://tiempo.hn/conadeh-se-retracta-afirma-no-volvera-opinar-la-releccion-presidencial/>

The new director of SANAA, Roberto Zablah, wants to invest \$1 billion in new dams for the Honduran capital.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138105-inversion-por-mas-de-mil-millones-de-dolares-requiere-el-sanaa-para-megarepresas.html>

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<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/08/mas-de-20-muertos-deja-fin-de-semana-brutal-en-honduras/>

10/01/17

LGTBI; Civic Center; National Police; Education; Toll Booths; US; Corruption; and the Honduras of Our Dreams

Pasos de Animal Grande spoke with Sandra Zambrano, director of APUVIMEH,

about the situation of the LGTBI community in Honduras - a community that suffered 335 registered murders since 2009.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1589-en-crime-nes-contra-comunidad-lgtbi-ministerio-publico-solo-anuncia-pero-no-da-resultados>

After the teachers' pension fund, the pension fund of the Armed Forces may as well be drained of \$10 million for the construction of the Civic Governmental Center (CCG).

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/09/ambiciones-orlandistas-llegan-hasta-los-fondos-del-instituto-de-prevision-militar/>

The DIECP announced that it found 34 million Lempiras not accounted for when investigating six active and former members of the National Police.

<http://tiempo.hn/incongruencia-patrimonial-seis-policias-asciende-mas-34-millones-segun-diecp/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138196-diecp-concluye-investigacion-de-incongruencia-patrimonial-de-seis-policias-por-l-34-millones.html>

Marlon Escoto decided not to go quietly accusing the Superior Education Bureau (DES) of influence peddling and that UNAH's dean Julieta Castellanos is aware about this.

The DES dared Escoto to present proof.

Congress, meanwhile, is about to approve another commission to intervene the National Agriculture University (UNA).

Escoto reacted with announcing a strike.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1994-marlon-escoto-arremete-contra-rectora-julieta-castellanos>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/09/direccion-educacion-superior-reta-marlon-escoto-presente-las-pruebas-la-supuesta-extorsion/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/09/aprobacion-junta-interventora-la-unag-hecho-mauricio-oliva/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/09/controvertido-rector-ira-a-huelga-si-parlamento-interviene-universidad-de-agricultura-de-honduras/>

The protests against the toll booths continue in the new year.

Inhabitants of El Progreso protested yesterday outside the commercial chamber of the city.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3403-indignados-contra-peaje-protestan-frente-a-c%C3%A1mara-de-comercio-en-el-progreso-yoro>

US ambassador James D. Nealon felt the need to tell the Honduran public that he stays in office until August this year.

On the same occasion, Nealon reiterated the US' support for the purge of the National Police.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/09/james-nelón-aclara-seguirá-honduras-cumplir-periodo/>

<http://tiempo.hn/jemes-nealon-atentados-comision-depuradora-esas-amenazas-tienen-pagar/>

ConfidencialHN investigates the role of Honduras in the region-wide corruption case of the Brazilian company Odebrecht.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/09/odebrecht-tambien-hizo-negocios-en-honduras-con-la-enee-y-tres-gobiernos/>

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<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3401-la-honduras-que-so%C3%B1amos-09-enero-2017>

11/01/17

Coup d'État; National Police; Penal Code; HRDs; Irregularities; IHSS; UNA; Taiwan; and the Good Nationalist

El Pulso started a four-part series on the martyrs of the coup d'état

with an interview with COFADEH's Bertha Oliva.

<http://elpulso.hn/los-martires-del-golpe-la-deuda-historica-de-libre-14/>

According to La Prensa, the gang MS-13 had up to 2015 13 high level police officials at its disposition.

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1033698-410/la-pandilla-ten%C3%ADa-a-sus-servicios-a-13-jefes-policiales>

JOH put a lot of pressure on Congress to approve the changes to the Penal Code allowing for an even more repressive behavior by the security forces.

According to the Nationalist congressman Oswaldo Ramos, these changes will probably be directly included in the new, currently discussed Penal Code.

Human rights defender Reina Rivera forcefully denounces the proposed changes.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/sutilmente-joh-presiona-al-parlamento-para-que-pruebe-normas-represivas/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/con-una-reunion-ilustrativa-joh-socializa-medidas-represivas-contr-el-pueblo-hondureno/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/nacionalista-aprovecharan-reformas-penales-para-introducir-mas-represion/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/preparan-diarrea-legislativa-del-orlandismo-para-atacar-a-oposicion/>

The High Commissioner's Office for Human Rights in Honduras demands from the Honduran state that it guarantees the protection of the beneficiaries of special protective measures granted by the IACHR.

The German Berghof-Foundation published an interesting guide for human rights organization to integrate a psycho-social focus in their treatment of threats (hat tip to Andrea).

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/derechos-humanos/oacnud-demanda-proteccion-efectiva-para-quienes-gozan-de>

[http://www.berghof-foundation.org/fileadmin/redaktion/Publications/Other\\_Resources/20170105\\_Organizaciones\\_amenazadas\\_fuertes\\_web.pdf](http://www.berghof-foundation.org/fileadmin/redaktion/Publications/Other_Resources/20170105_Organizaciones_amenazadas_fuertes_web.pdf)

The US investor David Sellon filled a complaint at COHEP that one of JOH's brother is using his influence in the Supreme Court harming a \$35 million investment by Sellon.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2000-estadounidense-denuncia-abuso-de-hermano-de-presidente-de-honduras>

While there still is no real conviction for corruption in the IHSS case - there is one for illegal possession of arms... - the Judicial Power

now announced that three high-level suspects will be transferred to the new maximum security prison "El Pozo".  
The MP also wants Mario Zelaya to be transferred there.  
It is almost ironic, that due to a failure to bring one of the transferred suspects, John Charles Bográn, to the court, the trial against Mario Zelaya and Ramón Bertetti had to be postponed once more.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/resolucion-en-twitter-piden-enviar-al-pozo-a-saqueadores-del-ihss/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/1998-ministerio-publico-hondureno-pide-el-pozo-para-mario-zelaya>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/item/138230-por-no-coordinar-traslado-de-imputado-suspenden-juicio-contra-zelaya-y-bertetti.html>

At the moment, exactly in "El Pozo", there are eight prison guards being investigated for handing out favors to inmates.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/item/138233-ocho-policias-penitenciarios-investigados-por-hacer-favores-a-reos-de-el-pozo.html>

As expected, Congress approved the creation of a commission to intervene the National Agriculture University (UNA).  
Marlon Escoto, meanwhile, remains suspended.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/parlamento-aprueba-creacion-de-junta-interventora-para-la-una/>

<http://tiempo.hn/decreto-intervencion-de-la-una/>

The moment the Taiwanese president ended her state visit to Honduras, the Honduran government announced a visit to Taiwan.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/138260-delegacion-de-honduras-viajara-a-la-republica-de-china-taiwan-para-acelerar-relacion-comercial-y-economica.html>

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<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/10/precandidatos-del-regimen-firman-el-pacto-del-buen-nacionalista/>

12/01/17

Penal Code; HRDs; OFRANEH; Corruption; Labor Rights; National Police; TSE; and What About MACCIH?

Opposition against the proposed changes to the Penal Code continues to

grow. The Coalition against Impunity raises several problems with the changes in a new press release.

Criticism also comes from sociologist and university professor Pablo Carias as well as political analyst Julio Navarro, the latter seeing them as electoral instruments by the National Party.

See Attachment

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/11/reformas-penales-continuaran-combatiendo-solo-los-efectos-y-no-las-raices-de-la-criminalidad/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/11/reformas-penales-solicitadas-por-joh-solo-siguen-una-agenda-electoral/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/11/alerta-conozca-la-estrategia-de-joh-para-reprimir-a-oposicion-antireeleccionista/>

The MP announced to prosecute a police agent and official which illegally detained the two human rights defenders Karla Lara and Sandra Maribel Sánchez and falsified documents.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/11/activistas-sociales-declararan-contrapolicia-hondureno-que-mintio-en-testimonio/>

And let's hope the MP will also investigate a new case of intimidation against human rights defenders. Yesterday, Miriam Miranda, the coordinator of OFRANEH, was illegally detained and threatened by police agents.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1592-policias-retuvieron-y-amenazaron-a-coordinadora-de-ofraneh-junto-a-tres-de-sus-companeros-garifunas>

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/01/copinh-rechaza-las-agresiones-contrala.html>

The director of the Forensic Medicine Unit at the MP, Julissa Villanueva, tries to defend her institution against the accusations of corruption. But by doing so, she entered into new contradictions.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/11/entre-contradicciones-jefa-de-medicina-forense-rechaza-acusaciones-de-supuesta-corrupcion/>

The labor union STIBYS fears about employment stability after the announced sale by SABMiller of the Honduran company Cervecería Hondureña to the international company AB InBev.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/11/coca-cola-cerveceria-hondurena-se-separan-stibys-exige-estabilidad-laboral-pago-prestaciones/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/economia/1034036-410/coca-cola-busca-un-socio-para-seguir-produciendo-en-honduras>

According to the purging committee, of the 29 police officials highlighted for illicit enrichment, three are still in active duty. The committee criticizes the slow investigation of the 29 officials. They also announced that the purge of the police lawyers is almost ready. Lastly, the commission told the public that 490 members of the police force had seen their jobs cancelled, most of them due to the restructuring of the police force.

<http://tiempo.hn/comision-depuradora-29-oficiales-senalado-enriquecimiento-tres-est-an-activos/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138331-depuradora-critica-lentitud-y-parsimonia-para-concluir-29-expedientes-de-oficiales-sobre-enriquecimiento-ilicito.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/138287-el-miembro-de-la-comision-especial-para-el-proceso-de-depuracion-y-transformacion-de-la-policia-nacional-omar-rivera.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1034062-466/honduras-cancelados-490-miembros-de-la-polic%C3%ADa-nacional>

Libre and PAC will be represented in the TSE by Rixi Moncada and Antonio García, who were nominated as the candidates for the formal election by Congress in the next legislative cycle beginning on January 25.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/10/antonio-garcia-rix-moncada-seran-los-magistrados-pac-libre-ante-tse/>

MACCIH chose a first batch of possible anti-corruption judges. Radio Progreso presents the MACCIH that would be needed for Honduras in 2017.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/01/11/maccih-selecciona-primeros-once-postulantes-jueces-anticorrupcion/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3404-la-maccih-que-honduras-necesita-11-enero-2017>

13/01/17

Berta - Investigation; OFRANEH; National Police; Journalists; Penitentiary System; Corruption; Minimum Wage; Education; Political Opposition; and the Internally Displaced

ATIC announced yesterday the arrest of Henry Javier Hernandez Rodriguez,

a former member of the Honduran military, in Tamaulipas, Mexico. He is accused of being involved in the murder of Berta.

Her daughter Olivia reacted to the arrest, writing that they also demand the arrests of those that planned the murder.

Praise comes from the US embassy and MACCIH.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1593-a-mas-de-10-meses-del-crimen-contra-bertha-caceres-se-anuncia-una-nueva-captura-de-otro-supuesto-implicado>

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2017/01/seventh-arrest-in-murder-of-bertha.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/12/hija-bertha-caceres-pide-captura-castigo-tiburones-ballas-asesinaron-madre/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138410-cae-otro-implicado-en-asesinato-de-bertha-caceres.html>

Miriam Miranda, general coordinator of OFRANEH, explains in a video what happened during the illegal detention of her.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jikzxR3jW3U&feature=youtu.be>

After pressure from various sides, the TSC finally announced that they are investigating 29 cases of illicit enrichment by members of the police force.

InSight Crime reports on the recent discovery of the links between the gang MS 13 and police officials.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/12/tsc-investiga-29-casos-de-enriquecimiento-ilicito-donde-se-involucran-a-policias/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/12/ante-fuertes-criticas-tsc-argumenta-avanza-investigacion-enriquecimiento-ilicito-policias/>

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/new-allegations-highlight-continuing-corruption-honduras-police>

C-Libre denounces various instances of threats and attacks against journalists.

Two journalists of the TV channel HCH have received death threats via Facebook.

A journalist of RDS Radio was assaulted in front of the radio station.

The journalist Helen Stéfany Ramírez was attacked and hurt in Danlí.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/amenazan-periodistas-de-hch>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/asaltan-periodistas-de-rds-radio-frente-instalaciones>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodista-herida-en-supuesto-asalto>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138404-apunalan-a-periodista-en-supuesto-asalto-en-danli.html>

Currently it seems, that the Honduran government just wants to send everyone to the new high security prison "El Pozo". Yesterday, it was requested that three mayors accused of ties to drug trafficking will be sent there.

The lawyer Marlon Duarte denounces, that his almost 70 year old client with health problem is supposed to be brought there, even though "El Pozo" was announced as a prison for people posing a threat to society.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/12/por-que-quieren-enviar-a-el-pozo-a-alcaldes-mafiosos-y-saqueadores-del-seguro-social/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/12/5-mil-personas-acusadas-delitos-graves-no-trasladados-al-pozo-defensor-mario-rojas/>

The former director of Hondutel, Marcelo Chimirri, will await his trial for illicit enrichment in jail. Meanwhile, the CNA announced that there are new investigations in the IHSS corruption case.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/12/enriquecimiento-ilicito-remiten-tamara-marcelo-chimirri/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/12/oficina-anticorrupcion-anuncia-grandes-investigaciones-sobre-megafraude-contra-el-seguro-social-hondureno/>

A tripartite commission decided to increase the minimum wage by between 3.3% to 6%. At the same time, the IHSS announced that the minimum contribution will increase by 400 Lempiras. Therefore, Gloria Pérez, the director of a consumer protection organization, calls the raise "pyrrhic".

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/12/trabajadores-honduras-tendran-raqitico-ajuste-salario-minimo/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/12/pirrico-aumento-salarial-sera-absorbido-por-galopante-inflacion/>

New irregularities linked to Marlon Escoto surfaced yesterday.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2004-hallan-gasto-excesivo-en-reparacion-de-moto-autorizada-por-escoto>

Xiomara Castro and Salvador Nasralla confirmed yesterday in TV the forming of an alliance by the political opposition. According to Nasralla, they will be joined by PINU and "good Nationalists and Liberals". The Liberal Party, meanwhile, announced that it will asks its base, if they should join the alliance.

<http://notibomba.com/xiomara-castro-y-salvador-nasralla-confirman-alianza-de-oposicion-en-une-tv/>

<http://notibomba.com/nasralla-vamos-juntos-pac-libre-pinu-y-los-buenos-liberales-y-nacionalistas/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/pl-preguntar%C3%A1-mediante-una-papeleta-electoral-si-esta-acuerdo-con-formar-una-alianza>

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<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1034605-466/honduras-174-mil-personas-abandonaron-sus-hogares-por-la-violencia>

14/01/17

Campesinxs; CONADEH; IHSS; Debt; Penal Code; Political Opposition; Education; National Police; and the Return of the Monkey God

Maybe a month ago, COFADEH and other human rights organizations warned

the national and international community about the imminent eviction of campesino families in San Pedro de Tutule, La Paz. It seems that there was not enough will to stop it and so yesterday a brutal eviction took place. The houses and fields of 60 campesino families were destroyed and four people were wounded. Victor Vasquez, a representative of MILPA, who helped the families in the negotiations was shot in the leg. The UN human rights office in Honduras expressed its concern about the "violent forced eviction".

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1594-tragico-viernes-13-cuatro-heridos-en-brutal-desalojo-policial-militar-de-empresa-campesina>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/honduras-atencion-mucha-atencion-cuatro.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/138477-onu-protesta-por-desalojo-de-campesinos-en-la-paz.html>

The former deputy commissioner at CONADEH, Linda Lizzie Rivera, denounces that CONADEH itself is violating human rights in Honduras and that there exists no real ombudsman for human rights in Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/13/linda-rivera-con-absoluta-certeza-lo-digo-en-conadeh-se-violentan-los-derechos-humanos/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2006-ombudsman-hondureno-violenta-derechos-humanos>

Yesterday, the former IHSS director Mario Zelaya was convicted a second time in the IHSS corruption case, this time for abuse of authority, fraud and breach of the duties of public servants.

MACCIH now claims that they have been working since August in the background on the corruption case at the IHSS. Its press speaker praises the first conviction for corruption in the case.

Next week, OAS' General Secretary will be in Honduras to present the results obtained by MACCIH up to now.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2009-tribunal-de-sentencia-emite-hoy-fallo-contra-mario-zelaya>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/13/la-maccih-ha-estado-trabajando-silenciosamente-la-investigacion-del-saqueo-al-ihss-juan-jimenez-mayor/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/13/luis-almagro-viene-honduras-la-proxima-semana-presentar-resultados-la-maccih/>

Honduras had to take up more debt - bonds worth some \$700 millions - to pay the debt caused by the privatization of ENEE.

El Heraldo portrays it as something positive, claiming that the 6.25% interest rates are a sign of confidence in Honduras

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/13/gobierno-hondureno-pide-prestado-20-mil-millones-para-pagar-deudas-de-la-enee/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1034958-466/honduras-inversi%C3%B3n-y-bajos-intereses-prev%C3%A9n-tras-colocar-bonos>

There are now Liberal voices as well that denounce the proposed changes to the Penal Code.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/13/reformas-a-legislacion-penal-es-para-contener-protestas-y-reveltas-de-la-poblacion/>

Libre's presidential candidate Xiomara Castro told the press that she is ready to drop the race if it is necessary to stop JOH gaining a second term.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/13/precandidata-de-libre-asegura-que-si-es-necesario-esta-dispuesta-a-ceder-su-candidatura/>

Rutilia Calderón was nominated as the new Education Minister. She is the vice-dean of UNAH.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/13/nueva-ministra-educacion-se-reune-joh-acuerda-asumir-1-febrero/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2011-vice-rectora-universitaria-nueva-secretaria-de-educacion>

The infight between the two bodies responsible of purging the police continues.

<http://tiempo.hn/omar-rivera-informes-la-diecp-pobres-mala-calidad-no-incluyentes/>

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<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/explorers-contract-flesh-eating-disease-honduras-rainforest-jungle-ruins-ancient-lost-city-monkey-a7523356.html>

15/01/17

Berta - Investigation; Witness; Fire Arms; Indigenous Peoples; National Police; US; US Foreign Policy; Coup d'état; Penitentiary System; Political Opposition; Elections; and Let's Dance

Aqui Abajo put together a useful overview on the arrests in the murder

case of Berta.

According to Proceso Digital, the seventh suspect is awaited in Honduras between today and tomorrow.

<http://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2017/1/14/seven-individuals-accused-of-participating-in-bertha-caceres-murder-attempt-against-gustavo-castro>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138512-extraditaran-desde-mexico-a-uno-de-los-presuntos-asesinos-de-bertha-caceres.html>

Tomorrow the only witness of Berta's murder, the Mexican human rights defender Gustavo Castro, will hold a press conference in Mexico. He is about to accuse the Honduran state before the IACHR for illegal detention

<http://otrosmundoschiapas.org/index.php/component/content/article/151-otros-temas/36-derechos/151-justicia-para-bertha/2531-conferencia-de-prensa-gustavo-castro-demanda-al-estado-hondureno-ante-la-cidh>

COFADEH denounces that the Honduran state continues to fail to uphold indigenous rights.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/estado-no-da-respuestas-a-derechos-de-los-pueblos-indigenas/>

Migdonia Ayestas, the director of UNAH's Violence Observatory, demanded from Congress that they restart the discussion on arms control.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/item/138489-uso-indiscriminado-de-armas-pone-acento-a-la-violencia-en-honduras-migdonia-ayestas.html>

In the midst of a purge and restructuring, the National Police Force celebrates its 135th year of existence.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/14/una-cuestionada-policia-nacional-de-honduras-celebra-135-anos-de-fundacion/>

US ambassador James D. Nealon wrote a letter to the disgraced Education Minister Marlon Escoto, praising his work, even though there are several open corruption accusations against him.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/14/recuerdos-solo-ee-uu-reconoce-logros-del-controvertido-marlon-escoto/>

CEPR's Alexander Main wrote down his analysis of the Latin America foreign policy of the future US president.

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2017/01/trump-latin-america-foreign-policy-obama-intervention-pink-tide/>

El Pulso continues with its four-part series on the martyrs of the coup d'état. The second part focuses on the murder of Honduras Isis Obed Murillo Mencías.

<http://elpulso.hn/isis-obed-murillo-mencias-el-martir-bandera/>

The MP now also wants Marcelo Chimirri, the former head of Hondutel and currently on trial for corruption, to be transferred to "El Pozo".

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/14/ministerio-publico-pedira-que-chimirri-sea-trasladado-a-carcel-el-pozo/>

According to PAC's president Salvador Nasralla, the alliance by the political opposition already has a government plan. He also promises that they would install a CICIH.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2013-salvador-nasralla-alianza-ya-tiene-propuesta-de-gobierno>

Criterio presents a useful timetable for the coming primary elections. The TSE has an online tool to check if one is allowed to vote.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/14/conozca-calendario-elecciones-honduras/>

[http://www.tse.hn/consulta\\_cne/](http://www.tse.hn/consulta_cne/)

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<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1034921-410/polic%C3%ADas-buscan-cambiar-su-imagen-bailando-jazz>

16/01/17

National Police; MILPAH; Berta - Investigation; Political Opposition; Catholic Church; Penitentiary System;

Félix Villanueva has been ratified as the director of the National

Police by the Security Minister Julian Pacheco Tinoco. Honduras Culture and Politics sums it up best, when it writes: "So the drug runners are now vouching for the corrupt in the Honduran government of Juan Orlando Hernandez."

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/15/ministro-seguridad-ratifica-cargo-felix-villanueva-director-la-policia-nacional/>

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2017/01/drug-runners-vouch-for-corrupt-in.html>

Pasos de Animal Grande delivers an update on the health status of MILPAH's president Víctor Vásquez, who was heavily injured by the police during the violent eviction last week in San Pedro de Tutule, La Paz.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1596-balas-policiales-lo-mandaron-al-hospital-unos-tres-meses-en-cama-estara-victor-vasquez-presidente-de-milpah-despues-de-represion-policia>

The seventh suspect in the murder case of Berta has extradited to Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/15/extraditan-a-honduras-a-militar-sospechoso-de-asesinar-a-berta-caceres/>

Libre's general assembly was used as the official launching block of the alliance of the political opposition.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/15/nasralla-advierte-virulenta-campana-de-joh-para-destruir-a-la-oposicion/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/15/cinismo-la-mentira-tienen-nombre-apellido-juan-orlando-hernandez-eva-fernandez/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/15/los-corruptos-y-criminales-de-mierda-deben-largarse-de-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138551-libre-aprueba-alianza-electoral-con-pac-y-pinu.html>

The Honduran Catholic Church praises the repressive and failed security

policies of the JOH administration.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138548-iglesia-dice-que-el-pozo-ateroriza-a-delincuentes.html>

Ebal Díaz, the government's assessor, complains that the telephone companies TIGO and Claro fail to block the phone calls out of Honduran prisons.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/15/tigo-claro-no-impiden-llamadas-centros-penales-ebal-diaz/>

17/01/17

Berta - Investigation; Witness; Lencas; HRDs; Penal Code; Reelection; Political Representation; MACCIH; UNA; and Let's Talk About Political Alliances

The newest suspect in Berta's murder case, Henry Javier Hernández

Rodríguez, has to await trial in prison.

At the same time, the family members of Berta and their legal representatives denounce that they are kept in the dark about the investigation.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1035599-466/detenci%C3%B3n-judicial-contra-henry-javier-hern%C3%A1ndez-s%C3%A9ptimo-detenido-por-crimen-de-bera>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/16/apoderados-familia-bera-caceres-temen-estrategias-generar-impunidad/>

ConfidencialHN published an interview with Gustavo Castro held after his announcement that he is legally pursuing the Honduran state for illegal detention at the IACHR.

Pasos de Animal Grande links to a video of the press conference.

During the press conference Gustavo also denounces that the Honduran government hasn't called him so far to help identify the murder of Berta.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/16/por-que-un-ambientalista-mexicano-demanda-al-estado-de-honduras/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/component/k2/item/1600-honduras-denunciada-ante-la-cidh-por-testigo-de-asesinato-de-bera-caceres>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/item/138601-testigo-de-asesinato-de-bera-caceres-pide-ser-llamado-para-reconocer-a-autor.html>

Miriela Fernández spoke with Tomás Gómez, coordinator of COPINH, about the past, present and future of the Lenca people in Honduras and the situation of COPINH after the murder of Berta.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/182858>

The newest bulletin by PBI commemorates the outstanding human rights defenders in Honduras who were taken from us in 2016.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1597-boletin-pbi-homenaje-a-gladys-lanza-y-las-incansables-defensoras-en-honduras>

Legal scholars at UNAH also criticize some of the proposed changes to the Penal Code, writing that they violate human rights and endanger the personal integrity of people faced with disproportional state force.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/16/unah-advierte-graves-retrocesos-en-cambios-a-legislacion-penal-que-exige-joh/>

The Judicial Power cleared the last legal obstacles for the reelection bid of JOH.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/16/justicia-hondurena-se-alinea-al-continuisimo-de-joh-rechazan-recursos-contr-la-reeleccion/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2015-urgente-corte-suprema-avala-reeleccion-de-joh>

The Supreme Court also rejected an appeal by women's organization denouncing the failed compliance with the Alternation and Parity Law.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1599-complicidad-estatal-partidos-no-reconoce-la-participacion-politica-de-las-mujeres>

Carlos Hernández, the coordinator of the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ), announced that on Wednesday they will hand-in to the Supreme Court a complete list of the candidates for the anti-corruption judges.

The United Kingdom will support MACCIH with 500'000 Lempiras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/16/certificacion-de-jueces-anticorrupcion-fortalecera-a-la-maccih/>

<http://tiempo.hn/reino-unido-dona-500-mil-lempiras-la-maccih-lucha-corrupcion/>

The members of the intervention committee at the Agriculture University were sworn in yesterday.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/16/comision-interventora-la-unag-ya-esta-integrada-lista-asumir-las-proximas-horas/>

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<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2014-alianza-va-el-jubilo-de-libre-dio-el-si>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/16/alianza-partidos-hecho-historico-los-nacionalistas-no-deben-desestimar-edgardo-rodriguez/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/16/alianza-partidos-oposicion-no-lograra-consolidarse-jorge-yllescas/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2016-reeleccion-divide-al-partido-nacional-de-honduras>

18/01/17

Journalists; Berta - Investigation; National Police; Privatization; Political Reform; UNA; Labor Rights; and Stand-Up for Human Rights

The journalist Igor Padilla was murdered in San Pedro Sula.

Two weeks ago, C-Libre denounced that two journalist of HCH, the same TV channel Padilla worked for, had received death threats.

The UN human rights office in Honduras emitted a press release expressing its consternation and they demanded that the Honduran state solves this "despicable murder".

But the Honduran state reacted with its usual routine: blaming the victim. Nora Urbina, responsible for the HRD protection mechanism, told the press, that he hadn't informed them about threats.

ConfidencialHN reports, that men pretending to be police agents murdered Padilla.

ATIC announced, that they already dispatched two units to solve the murder. Its director said, that theft as a motive can be discarded, as it seems to have been a planned act.

The same day, the Security Secretariat emitted a press release, declaring that gangs are probably behind the murder.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/asesinan-periodista-en-san-pedro-sula>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/17/periodistas-hch-s-p-s-recibieron-amenazas/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/17/onu-exige-al-estado-de-honduras-esclarecer-asesinato-de-periodista-igor-padilla/#>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138694-igor-padilla-no-informo-de-amenazas-ni-se-acogio-al-sistema-de-proteccion-nora-urbina.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/17/policia-de-honduras-niega-que-falsos-agentes-hayan-matado-a-periodista/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/17/atic-desplaza-dos-equipos-investigar-asesinato-periodista-igor-padilla/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/01/17/secretaria-seguridad-caso-padilla-los-hechores-estan-vinculados-miembros-activos-pandillas/>

The legal representatives of Berta's family and COPINH released a statement on the arrest of a seventh suspect.

<http://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2017/01/16/Posicionamiento-equipo-legal-caso-Berta-C%C3%A1ceres-Ante-captura-del-s%C3%A9ptimo-implicado>

Yesterday, the initial audience took place in a case on police violence. Back in August 2016, five police agents and two members of the Armed Forces illegally raided a house and hit Máximo Ramos Díaz, a member of Libre and community leader in Gualcinse.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/audiencia-inicial-contrapolicias-y-militares-que-atacaron-a-ciudadano-en-lempira/>

Delia Rivas, the Honduran Health Secretary, announced the privatization of four hospitals.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/17/gobierno-de-honduras-privatizara-cuatro-hospitales-alegando-descentralizacion/>

OAS's Secretary General Luis Almagro is currently visiting. During a press conference he praised the role of the MACCIH in the passing of the "Clean Politics Bill" (Ley de Financiamiento de Partidos Políticos). There are a lot of promises associated with the bill.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/17/gobierno-y-oea-se-derriten-en-elogios-por-ley-de-politica-limpia/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/17/la-corrupcion-se-ha-transformado-una-especia-privatizacion-del-estado-luis-almagro/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/ley-de-pol%C3%ADtica-limpia-permitir%C3%A1-conocer-el-origen-de-los-fondos-de-las-campa%C3%B1-pol%C3%ADticas>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/item/138666-ley-de-politica-limpia-para-evitar-penetracion-del-crimen.html>

More acts of irregular expenses at the Agriculture University came to light on Monday.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2018-hallan-mas-gastos-excesivos-en-universidad-agricola>

More than 1400 employees of the National Person Registry (RNP) protested against outstanding salaries last December. They are now legally prosecuted for demanding their rights.

<http://tiempo.hn/empleados-del-rnp-van-audiencia-descargo-protestar/>

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<http://ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21083&LangID=E>

19/01/17

Journalists; National Party; Reelection; MACCIH; Judicial Power; CONADEH; Campesinx; National Police; Hydroelectricity; and Electoral Fraud in the Making

The murder of journalist Igor Padilla caused a lot of attention. He is

the 64th journalist who violently lost his life in Honduras since 2001.

El Pulso tries to integrate it into the bigger picture of violence in Honduras.

Reporters without Borders condemns it as an "attack against journalism in Honduras".

The US ambassador demanded a thorough investigation and CONADEH calls for an end to impunity.

It is, therefore, convenient that the Honduran government can present, just a day after the assassination, no less than 18 gang members, claiming one of them is the murder of Padilla.

One of the accused, Isaac Cáix Hernández alias "Litte Sam", was supposed to be in the high security prison "El Pozo".

The National Penitentiary Institute reacted by saying that he hadn't escaped, but was released by a judge.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/con-igor-padilla-suman-64-los-periodistas-asesinados-desde-2001/>

<http://elpulso.hn/la-guerra-contra-las-maras-y-la-muerte-de-igor-padilla/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1603-rsf-con-este-ataque-a-igor-padilla-es-toda-la-prensa-hondurena-la-que-es-agredida>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/asesinato-de-igor-padilla-nealon-demanda-investigacion-exhaustiva-y-precisa-conadeh-exige-no-mas-impunidad.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/18/capturan-mas-de-una-docena-de-supuestos-pandilleros-en-san-pedro-sula/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/18/policia-le-toma-pelo-la-opinion-publica-al-presentar-supuesto-reo-del-pozo-asesino-igor-padilla/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/18/instituto-penitenciario-asegura-marero-no-se-escapo-pozo-sino-fue-liberado-juez/>

Eva Fernández, the coordinator of the Blue Hearts Movement inside the National Party, denounces that the Nationalists opposed to the presidential reelection are being persecuted and harassed.

These statements are to be seen in a new light after the murder of journalist Igor Padilla, as he also was a member of the Blue Hearts Movement.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2022-eva-fernandez-denuncia-persecucion-a-nacionalistas-antireeleccion>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/monitoreo-de-compromisos-internacionales/item/1602-la-impunidad-facilita-el-terreno-acribillan-a-balazos-al-periodista-igor-padilla>

A new legal complaint against the presidential reelection was presented at the TSE.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/honduras-maribel-espinoza-pide-al-tse.html>

El Pulso sheds a critical light on the recent visit by OAS General Secretary Luis Almagro.

During his visit, Almagro signed an agreement with the Attorney General creating a joint investigation mechanism.

<http://elpulso.hn/la-visita-de-luis-almagro-y-los-logros-de-la-maccih/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/18/fiscalia-de-honduras-y-oea-crean-mecanismo-para-investigar-casos-de-corrupcion/>

<http://www.radiohnrn.hn//noticias/mp-y-macch-oea-suscriben-mecanismo-interinstitucional-de-cooperacion-bilateral>

Almargo was also present during the presentation of the final 17 candidates for the position of the newly created anti-corruption judges. MACCIH press speaker dares to speak of a new beginning for Honduras. Meanwhile, one of the new judges already felt the need to stress his independence.

The coordinator of the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) told the press that with the chosen election mechanism they have reduced the risks that the judges get corrupted by the system.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/18/almagro-presencia-entrega-listado-jueces-anticorrupcion/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/18/vocero-de-la-macch-aqui-comienza-otra-historia-para-el-pais/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/18/nuevo-juez-anticorrupcion-asegura-que-no-tienen-ningun-compromiso-con-nadie/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/18/rigor-en-seleccion-de-jueces-reduce-riesgos-de-mas-serviles-del-sistema/>

The former Human Rights Secretary Ana Pineda laments the destitution of Linda Lizzy Rivera from CONADEH and she stresses the need to reform the law governing CONADEH.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/18/cuestionan-despido-de-defensora-de-la-vida-ordenada-por-ombudsman-azul/>

COFADEH and La Cloc-Vía Campesina demand a solution to the situation of the evicted campesino families in San Pedro Tutule, La Paz. Front Line Defenders condemns the violent eviction and demands an investigation into the aggression during the eviction against the human rights defender Víctor Vásquez.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/cofadeh-y-la-cloc-via-campesina-honduras-solicitan-que-se-resuelva-de-inmediato-los-tres-recursos-de-amparo-presentados-ante-el-poder-judicial-por-brutal-desalojo-a-la-9-de-julio/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-agresion-armada-contra-el-defensor-lenca-victor-vasquez/>

A judge in Gracias, Lempira, decided that the members of the police and armed forces, accused of several crimes (see yesterday's News-Roundup) have to await trial in prison.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-contra-policias-y-militares-por-atacar-a-ciudadano-en-lempira/>

Proceso Digital reports on a protest by inhabitants of Mezapa, Atlántida against a hydroelectric dam. They denounce that with the beginning of the construction, their drinking water started to contain mud and garbage.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/obladores-de-unas-20-comunidades-de-mezapa-atlantida-caribe-de-honduras-protestan-este-miercoles-en-la-carretera-ca-13.html>

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<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3413-solo-queda-el-fraude-18-enero-2017>

20/01/17

Journalists; Penitentiary System; Penal Code; Corruption; Torture; Insecurity; Campesinx; UNA; Judicial Power; and a Historic Debt Level

The murder of journalist Igor Padilla continues to make headlines. But

there is an ever growing interest in the detained gang leaders. Yesterday it was found that the gang member "Little Sam" had been in the highly-praised maximum security prison "El Pozo" before being released. Now ConfidencialHN reports, that another of the accused had been detained there.

El Libertador shows how the events that left to their release differ when told by JOH then when presented by Mauricio Oliva.

Meanwhile, the authorities sent 13 arrested gang members to trial, but only two of them for the murder of Padilla.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/19/mito-del-pozo-se-derrumba-dos-pandilleros-estuvieron-presos-y-libres/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2026-funcionarios-hondurenos-distorsionan-libertad-de-asesino-de-periodista>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/19/solo-dos-los-trece-mareros-remitidos-los-tribunales-acusados-del-asesinato-igor-padilla/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/requerimiento-para-dos-pandilleros-que-dispararon-contra-periodista-padilla-y-para-11-mas-por-otros-ilicitos.html>

Wilfredo Méndez, director of CIPRODEH, sees the case of "Little Sam" as a case in point that the Honduran authorities are capturing persons, just to silently let them go and recapturing them again, presenting them as criminals.

Meanwhile, the human rights defender Alba Mejía declares the promises to reform the Penitentiary System as a fallacy and she denounces in particular the role of the National Security Council.

Proceso Digital reports on the female prison population. According to their article, only 30.3% of all imprisoned women have been sentenced.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/19/denuncian-el-juego-de-muerte-que-aplica-el-gobierno/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/19/promesas-de-un-mejor-sistema-penitenciario-son-una-falacia/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/solo-30-3-de-presas-en-honduras-tiene-condena-la-mayoria-por-narcotrafico.html>

The authorities campaign to denigrate and attack everyone opposed to the proposed changes to the Penal Code continues.

JOH, ignoring any cynicism, even uses the murder of journalist Igor Padilla supposedly by a gang member released from "El Pozo" to promote his human rights endangering reforms to the Penal Code.

CONADEH, meanwhile, calls for caution when implementing the reforms and underlines the importance to comply with international standards.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/19/jefe-del-parlamento-critica-a-libre-por-impedir-criminalizacion-de-la-protesta-social/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/19/joh-aprovecha-nebulosa-marero-exigir-las-reformas-al-codigo-penal/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/herrera-c%C3%A1ceres-recomienda-reconsiderar-reformas-penales-que-podr%C3%AD-afectar-la-vida-y-otros>

ConfidencialHN investigated a new case of corruption involving the former president of the Judicial Power, the Nationalist Vilma Morales.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/19/la-sociedad-de-los-tetos-y-las-multimillonarias-ganancias-apadrinadas-por-la-intocable-vilma-morales/>

The Commissioner of the National Mechanism to Prevent Torture (MNP-CONAPREV) denounces administrative interference in her work.

<http://conexihon.hn/site/noticia/derechos-humanos/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n-derechos-humanos/denuncian-injerencia-administrativa>

In the new year, almost one hundred people already lost their lives in Honduras due to violence. El Tiempo spoke with the retired army general Luis Alonso Maldonado Galeas about the causes of this violence.

<http://tiempo.hn/experto-seguridad-politicos-involucrados-crimen-organizado/>

The Agrarian Platform held a press conference yesterday. They denounce that 90 days after the murder of José Ángel Flores and Silmer Dionicio George the arrest warrants against their murderers still haven't been executed .

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/plataforma-agraria-denuncia-que-el.html>

The Intervention Commission started its work yesterday at the National Agriculture University.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/19/aires-esperanza-asumio-hoy-la-comision-interventora-la-unag/>

In San Pedro Sula, the Judicial Power tries to improve its work with the installation of a Regional Commission for Inter-institutional Justice.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/19/instalan-comision-regional-justicia-interinstitucional-la-zona-norte-honduras/>

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<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/19/endeudamiento-publico-honduras-mas-severo-la-historia-economica-del-pais/>

21/01/17

Penal Code; Elections; Campesinx; MACCIH; and Broken Promises

The civil society group Articulation 611 held another press conference

on Thursday denouncing the politicization of the topic of security and the proposed reforms to the Penal Code that come along with it. An example of this politicization came from JOH yesterday. He once more presented the murder of the journalist Igor Padilla as a reason for the reforms and he, furthermore, wants judges to sent inmates who supposedly committed a crime in prison directly to "El Pozo" without any trial nor sentence.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1604-articulacion-611-hay-una-politizacion-electoral-del-tema-de-la-seguridad-y-el-delito>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/presidente-hernandez-asegura-que-reo-que-est%C3%A1-en-el-pozo-es-raz%C3%B3n-suficiente-para-no>

All in all, the TSE cancelled some 60'000 suspicious changes of domicile. Today, the electoral season officially takes off in Honduras.

And with the start of the electoral season, Hondurans took to the streets against on Friday night to protest the reelection bid of JOH. PINU congresswoman denounces the recent decision by the Supreme Court to reject an appeal in which she accuses the TSE of violating the law on female representation in political office.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/01/20/tse-anula-60-mil-cambios-domicilios/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/20/partir-manana-sabado-arranca-oficialmente-la-campana-propaganda-electoral/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/20/hondurenos-vuelven-a-las-calles-para-repudiar-intentona-continuista-de-juan-hernandez/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/20/denuncian-que-solo-en-honduras-ponen-un-reglamento-sobre-la-ley/>

MUCA emitted a press release yesterday in which they denounce the persecution of their leaders by a paramilitary group.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/20/campesinos-del-aguan-honduras-denuncian-persecucion-de-bandas-paramilitares/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/%E2%80%9Cparamilitares%E2%80%9D-dan-seguimiento-al-presidente-del-muca>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/20/grupo-paramilitar-opera-aguan-da-persecucion-al-secretario-general-muca/>

Honduras' Security Secretary Julián Pacheco meet with MACCIH to discuss their joint priorities.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/20/maccih-ofrece-colaborar-en-seguridad-sin-meterse-en-lo-que-no-les-importa/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/mision-anticorrupcion-de-la-oea-ofrece-a-honduras-apoyo-tecnico-en-seguridad.html>

Agents of the Bureau of Police Investigation (DPI) searched the offices of Banhprovi and Banadesa for evidence of fraud in a housing project. The project was meant for police agents and was ceremonially opened in 2014 by JOH.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/20/ministerio-publico-le-cae-banhprovi-banadesa-supuesto-fraude-estafa-proyecto-habitacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/20/se-viene-proyecto-habitacional-policias-impulsado-joh/>

22/01/17

Journalists; Elections; Libre; UNA; and Express Kidnapping

Pen Honduras condemns the murder of journalist Igor Padilla and it warns

of a wave of violence against social communicators in this electoral year.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1605-centro-pen-honduras-condena-asesinato-del-periodista-igor-padilla-y-advierte-una-escalada-de-violencia-contra-comunicadores-sociales-en-este-ano-electoral>

Over 50'000 Hondurans are running inside 17 internal movements of Libre, the Liberal Party and the National Party for the primary elections on March 12.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/21/inicia-el-proselitismo-politico-para-los-comicios-internos/>

In what can be seen as the beginning of its campaign, Libre classifies JOH's security police as failed and they promote community policing as the ways forwards. In the press release, Libre also condemns the murder of Padila and they accuse the Honduran state for being responsible for it.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/21/el-gobierno-de-honduras-mato-a-igor-padilla-denuncia-partido-libre/>

El Tiempo reports that the protesting students at the National Agriculture University handed over the facilities to the intervention committee recently nominated by Congress.

<http://tiempo.hn/estudiantes-de-la-una-entregaron-instalaciones-junta-interventora/>

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<http://tiempo.hn/secuestro-express-taxis/>

23/01/17

Penal Code; National Police; and the IHSS Corruption Case

Today's session at Congress will be held to "approve priority

legislation", i.e. reform of the Penal Code and other new bills giving more power to the security apparatus. Pressure now also comes from UNAH's Violence Observatory and the Evangelical Confraternity of Honduras. They all seem to ignore the worries expressed by human rights experts as well as human rights organizations. Carits Honduras just emitted a press release, writing that the reforms would bring Honduras back to the 1980's.

<http://tiempo.hn/cn-carrera-aprobacion-del-nuevo-codigo-penal/>

<http://tiempo.hn/entidades-urgen-al-congreso-nacional-aprobacion-reformas-al-codigo-penal/>

<http://notibomba.com/caritas-honduras-pide-al-gobierno-no-llevar-al-pais-de-vuelta-a-los-anos-80s/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/22/orlandismo-trabaja-a-contrarreloj-para-tildar-de-terroristas-a-la-oposicion/>

On Saturday, Omar Rivera, a member of the purging body of the National Police, underlined their thorough work to only present the best of the best to raise in rank inside the Honduran police. Now La Prensa reports that various officials recommended for a promotion are denounced for abuse of authority, human rights violations, drug trafficking and links to Maras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/solo-los-mejores-deben-escalar-dice-depurador-sobre-ascenso-de-oficiales-de-policia.html>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1037490-410/polic%C3%ADas-propuestos-para-ascenso-tienen-denuncias-por-v%C3%ADnculos-con-narcos>

The trial against Mario Zelaya, Carlos Montes, and Javier Pastor in the IHSS case is supposed to continue today.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/22/manana-continua-juicio-zelaya-montes-pastor-robo-ihss/>

24/01/17

MILPAH; Journalists; Hydroelectricity; Penal Code; Violence against Children; Military Police; National Police; Judicial Power; Workers' Rights; a New President - the Same Travel Warnings

C-Libre spoke with human rights defender Víctor Vásquez, who recently

had been hurt by state security forces in the violent eviction in San Pedro de Tutule, La Paz. According to him, the Honduran authorities haven't so far taken up direct contact with him about the events.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/defensor-de-derechos-humanos-se-recupera-de-herida-de-bala>

Journalist Bictor Wuilfredo Ruiz Hernández denounces receiving death threats from unknown persons. He already has filed three complaints at the MP about it.

The MP decided to keep the investigation into the murder of journalist Igor Padilla under secrecy.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodista-de-sab%C3%A1-col%C3%B3n-recibe-amenazas-muerte>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/investigaci%C3%B3n-del-asesinato-del-periodista-igor-padilla-se-realizar%C3%A1-bajo-secretividad>

MADJ denounces that there was an attack against the public prosecutor Randy Mejía just hours after he had inspected possible damage done by a hydroelectric project.

MADJ also highlights the risks environmental defenders run in Honduras.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/atentan-contra-fiscal-que-investiga-proyecto-hidroel%C3%A9ctrico>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/alertan-sobre-el-riesgo-de-ambientalistas-en-atl%C3%A1ntida>

The UN human rights office in Honduras presented the Honduran authorities an analysis which outlines how to make the reforms to the Penal Code comply with international human rights standards.

At the same time, more than 40 human rights organizations organized as the Articulation 611 wrote an open letter to Congress asking them not to vote in favor of the proposed reforms.

PINU congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez denounces that they, i.e. the congresswomen were asked to discuss and decided on the proposed reforms without even knowing their exact content.

El Tiempo spoke with three experts who all oppose the reforms.

After Libre, PAC now also has emitted a press release announcing their opposition against the Penal Code reforms.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1609-gobierno-ha-pasado-por-alto-las-recomendaciones-de-la-oacnudh-y-sigue-empeinado-en-violar-derechos-humanos-con-reformas-penales>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1610-en-otro-esfuerzo-por-detener-reformas-penales-lesivas-organizaciones-envian-carta-al-pleno-del-congreso-nacional>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/23/doris-gutierrez-denuncia-oficialismo-esta-escondiendo-dictamen-las-reformas-penales/>

<http://tiempo.hn/237457-2/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/23/reformas-penales-otorgan-licencia-matar-los-cuerpos-seguridad-del-estado-pac/>

El Pulso takes a detailed, and therefore disturbing, look at the high murder rate of children in Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/4627-menores-fueron-asesinados-entre-2008-y-2015/>

Both La Tribuna and La Prensa report that a member of the Military Police abused a child and left her pregnant.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/01/23/militar-abusa-menor-sordomuda-la-deja-embarazada/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1037673-410/acusan-a-militar-hondure%C3%B1o-de-violar-y-embarazar-a-ni%C3%B1a-de-12>

JOH prolonged the mandate of the purging committee for another year.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/presidente-hernandez-prorrogara-un-ano-mas-junta-depuradora-de-la-policia.html>

The former president of the Supreme Court, Vilma Morales, tries to defend herself against accusations of corruption.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/23/las-contradicciones-de-vilma-con-los-tetos-no-hemos-tenido-relacion-de-ninguna-naturaleza/>

Criteria reports on a governmental attack on the labor union of the National Person Registry (RNP).

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/23/gobierno-comienza-desarticular-sindicato-del-mp/>

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<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/23/ante-los-elevados-indices-violencia-ee-uu-reactiva-alerta-no-viajar-honduras/>

25/01/17

Journalists; Campesinxs; MACICH; National Party; IHSS; Infrastructure; UNA; (Re)Elections; US; National Police; Penitentiary System; and Another Successful Arrest

Giorgio Trucchi wrote a new article on the situation of journalists in

Honduras. Of the 63 cases of murdered journalists in the last 15 years, only 5% have been resolved. 50 of the 63 murders took place since 2009 and 24 alone in 2014 and 2015. C-Libre emitted 219 alerts in 2015 for violations of freedom of expression, 75% of them regarded violence against journalists.

A new article by Criterio also highlights the weak social security net for journalists.

One of the young men presented as a suspect in the murder of Igor Padilla apparently was cutting hair in a studio during the time of the murder.

Padilla's murder has also been condemned by the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the IACHR.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/183072>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/24/conozca-la-historia-periodista-hondureno-recio-una-miserable-pension-mil-lempiras/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/24/mientras-asesinaban-al-comunicador-igor-padilla-el-barbero-cortaba-pelo/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-relatoria-especial-condena-el-asesinato-de-periodista-televisivo-en-honduras/>

COFADEH, Vía Campesina and members of the campesino company Empresa Asociativa 9 de Julio in San Pedro de Tutule, La Paz, held a joint press conference in the presence of a representative of the UN human rights office.

COFADEH also held a workshop in La Paz with 15 human rights defenders from the department focusing on indigenous rights.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-estado-de-honduras-no-protege-los-derechos-humanos-de-las-comunidades-indigenas-en-el-departamento-de-la-paz/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/estado-de-honduras-esta-en-la-obligacion-de-brindar-respuestas-a-las-demandas-de-tierra-planteadas-por-las-comunidades-lencas/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-paz-urge-de-acciones-enfocadas-en-derechos-indigenas/>

Javier Suazo offers a critical analysis of the recent visit by OAS General Secretary to Honduras.

The new US administration announced that it will continue supporting MACCIH.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/183055>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/24/nuevo-secretario-de-estado-de-ee-uu-garantizara-respaldo-a-misiones-anticorrupcion-en-honduras-y-guatemala/>

A recent statement by the former labor undersecretary Carlos Montes further corroborates the claims that the 2013 campaign by JOH and his National Party was financed by illicit financial flows.

Motnes, furthermore, declared that the MP hid a report which shows that the brother of vice-president Ricardo Álvarez Arias, Juan Carlos Álvarez

Arias, received 17 million Lempiras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/24/exfuncionario-admite-haber-recibido-sobornos-y-delata-a-hermano-del-vicepresidente/>

<http://tiempo.hn/segun-carlos-montes-coimas-del-ihss-financiaron-al-partido-nacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/24/fiscalia-esconde-expediente-donde-se-senala-hermano-ricardo-alvarez-agarro-17-millones-lempiras-coimas/>

The defense team of the former IHSS director Mario Zelaya requested that his client serve his time in a hospital instead of behind bars. The organization Indignados Unidos, which helped bring protestors to the streets regarding the IHSS corruption scandal, denounces that it suffered a cyber-attack.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/24/piden-que-saqueador-del-ihss-cumpla-condena-atendiendo-en-hospitales/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/ataque-de-call-center-deja-fuera-de-servicio-página-de-indignados>

PAC congressman Aníbal Cáliz denounces that Congress approved a \$20 million loan to improve the highway CA5, which is operated by the multinational Covi.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/24/mas-deudas-parlamento-de-honduras-aprueba-prestamo-para-carretera-privatizada/>

Marlon Escoto now also resign from his (suspended) post as dean of the National Agriculture University (UNA).

<http://tiempo.hn/marlon-escoto-anuncia-retiro-rector-la-una-catacamas/>

The Honduran elections have taken a regional character with a statement by San Salvador's mayor advising against the reelection of JOH.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/24/reelegir-joh-seria-grave-error-alcalde-san-salvador/>

InSight Crime comments on JOH's announcement to prolong the purge of the police for another year.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-extends-police-reform-commission-until-2018>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/24/la-sostenibilidad-fundamental-proceso-depuracion-policial/>

Alba Mejía, deputy director of CPTRT, highlights the negative consequence of the reforms to the Penal Code on the penitentiary system. Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the position of the UN human rights office on the proposed reforms.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/reformas-penales-provocara-hacinamiento-en-carceles-advierde-subdirectora-del-cprt.html>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1611-filtran-informacion-sobre-observaciones-que-la-oficina-del-alto-comisionado-de-ddhh-en-honduras-habria-enviado-sobre-propuesta-de-joh-sobre-reformas-penales>

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<http://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/1038063-468/memes-hondureños-se-burlan-por-caso-de-gallo-pres>

26/01/17

Corruption; IHSS; Penal Code; Freedom of Expression; Workers' Rights; Elections; Women's Rights; CARSI; CONADEH; and Berta Lives

ConfidencialHN and Libertador published more information about the 17

million Lempiras given to the president of Banhprovi, who also is the brother of vice-president Ricardo Álvarez.

The latter rejects the accusations.

The former president of the private business council Cohep, Adolfo Facussé, reacts to the above-mentioned revelation by Carlos Montes, declaring that it only once more underlines that the powerful are using state funds to finance their campaigns.

Honduras ranks 123th out of 176 countries in the newest Perception of Corruption Index by Transparency International (TI).

What is more interesting, TI's president Carlos Hernandez declared that the Deputy Attorney General Rigoberto Cuellar should be investigated for all the accusations against him, but that due to his powerful friends, he is untouchable.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/25/exclusiva-los-tetos-dieron-17-millones-de-lempiras-a-hermano-del-vicepresidente-de-honduras/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2038-hermano-de-ricardo-alvarez-recibio-casi-18-millones-de-robo-al-ihss-2>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/25/maldad-politica-me-acusan-familia-ricardo-alvarez/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/25/adolfo-facusse-el-poder-utiliza-recursos-del-estado-para-financiar-sus-campanas-politicas/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/25/el-ranking-de-los-paises-mas-y-menos-corruptos-del-mundo-en-honduras-campea-la-corrupcion/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/25/fiscal-general-adjunto-rigoberto-cuellar-proteccion-politica-no-lo-tocan-carlos-hernandez/>

PAC president Salvador Nasralla demands from the MP and MACCIH to take up these newest revelations to go forward with their investigation into the network of corruption around the IHSS case and the financing of the National Party.

What happened instead is that the Judicial Power suspended, once more, the trial in the IHSS case.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/25/lider-anticorrupcion-critica-indolencia-para-esclarecer-megasaqueo-del-ihss/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/25/cuando-se-comenzaba-desenredar-la-madeja-la-corrupcion-tribunales-suspenden-juicio-ihss-coimas/>

The UN human rights office's recommendation regarding the reforms of the Penal Code are now online.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4E\\_ITBL2vi3QU04NHFkblA1WjQ/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4E_ITBL2vi3QU04NHFkblA1WjQ/view)

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1612-confirman-publicacion-de-pasosdeanimalgrande-com-onu-derechos-humanos-aporta-observaciones-a-paquete-de-reformas-de-seguridad>

C-Libre denounces that journalists were denied access to cover the installation of the newest legislative period.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/impiden-el-acceso-de-equipo-de-prensa-al-congreso-nacional>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/25/congreso-hondureno-impide-acceso-equipo-la-prensa-acto-oficial/>

An international delegation arrived this week in Honduras to find out more about the situation of the workers of the transnational company Fyffes.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/183097>

PAC congressman Luis Redondo accused the Nationalist Lissi Marcela Matute Cano of using a helicopter supposedly belonging to the Armed Forces for the electoral campaign. The latter now filed a complaint against him for defamation.

Redondo was also physically attacked by no less than the Honduran human rights minister. Redondo held up a card in Congress denouncing the reelection, when the latter took it away from him and hit him.

And as expected, JOH can't differentiate between official state business and his reelection campaign.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/25/nacionalistas-querellan-agreden-y-amenazan-a-diputado-del-pac/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2039-funcionario-de-derechos-humanos-ataca-diputado-por-protestar-contr-reeleccion>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/25/joh-convierte-acto-oficial-mitin-politico-pro-reeleccion/>

Women's organization protested in Tegucigalpa yesterday on the Honduran Women's Day.

The UN human rights office in Honduras demanded that Honduras protects, promotes and respects women's rights.

<http://libertaddigitalhn.com/noticias/mujeres-organizadas-conmemoran-dia-de-la-mujer-protestando-a-inmediaciones-del-congreso-nacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/25/una-punalada-legal-mujeres-hondurenas-festejan-hoy-dia/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2036-onu-demanda-a-honduras-respetar-derechos-de-mujeres>

CEPR reacts to Vanderbilt University's Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) critique of their previous report, "Have US-Funded CARSI Programs Reduced Crime and Violence in Central America?".

<http://cepr.net/publications/reports/response-to-vanderbilt-university-s-lapop-critique-of-cepr-report-have-us-funded-carsi-programs-reduced-crime-and-violence-in-central-america>

The Coalition against Impunity calls out to Conadeh to comply with its mandate and they demand an investigation into the accusations by Linda Lizzie Rivera.

See Attachment

COPINH calls for a month of actions for the coming March.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/01/convocatoria-del-copinh-la-jornada.html?sref=fb>

27/01/17

Corruption; HRDs; Electoral Reforms; Journalists; Women's Rights; Sex workers; Church; OFRANEH; MP; and Honduran Journalism in a Post-Truth World

According to La Prensa, US financial institutions were used in the IHSS

corruption case to launder money and support the electoral campaign of the National Party.

This newest interest in the case was spurred by revelations by the former labor undersecretary Carlos Montes. His sister, Patricia Montes, now fears for his life.

Wilfredo Méndez, president of the human rights organization Ciprodeh, aksed CONADEH to guarantee the safety of Carlos Montes.

ConfidencialHN, meanwhile, continues to publish new information about the case.

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1038836-410/los-tetos-lavaron-dinero-a-través-de-bancos-de-eua>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2041-hermana-denuncia-que-carlos-montes-corre-peligro>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/26/defensor-de-dd-hh-advierte-posible-crimen-contr-ex-funcionarios-del-ihss/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/26/los-tetos-usaron-cuchara-grande-y-poderosas-para-obtener-dinero-del-seguro-social-de-honduras/>

The US ambassador James D. Nealon signed a cooperation agreement with USAID and Freedom House to strengthen the Honduran mechanism to protect human rights defenders.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/26/freedom-house-ee-uu-apoyaran-mecanismo-proteccion-periodistas-defensores-derechos-humanos/>

Congress was about to discuss electoral reforms yesterday, a prerequisite for the coming elections according to Libre coordinator Manuel Zelaya, but the Liberal Party left Congress and stopped the discussion. As a result, there is still no official approval for the representation of PAC and Libre at the TSE as well as the RNP.

<http://www.proceso.hn/component/k2/36-proceso-electoral/mel-insiste-que-si-no-hay-legitimidad-no-habra-elecciones.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/26/liberales-chantajean-nacionalistas-la-no-aprobacion-leyes-2017-mel-zelaya/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/26/congreso-suspende-ratificacion-las-reformas-electorales-favorecen-pac-libre-liberales-no-llegaron-la-sesion/>

Criterio reports on problems inside the Journalist College of Honduras (CPH), which is about to hold elections under unfavorable circumstances.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/26/periodistas-elegir-los-mismos-escenario-opacidad/>

Pasos de Animal Grande published an overview of the current challenges for women's organizations in Honduras. Merlin Eguigure, the leader of Movimiento de Mujeres por la Paz Visitación Padilla, holds Attorney General Oscar Chinchilla responsible for the impunity reigning in cases of femicide.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1614-mujeres-exigieron-no-mas-femicidios-discriminacion-ni-ejecuciones>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1615-segun-las-chonas-la-mentalidad-patriarcal-de-los-operadores-de-justicia-genera-mas-violencia-hacia-las-mujeres>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/26/responsabilizan-a-fiscal-general-por-falta-de-esclarecimiento-de-femicidios/>

Regina Barahona, the president of the Honduran Sex Worker Association, denounces abuse by the police of her members.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/siguen-denuncias-contr-policias-y-militares-por-abusos-a-trabajadoras-del-sexo.html>

Both the Catholic as well as the Evangelical Church in Honduras oppose sexual education in Honduras' school.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/26/iglesias-catolica-evangelica-se-cruzan-camino-la-distribucion-guias-sexuales-las-escuelas/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/26/la-iglesia-catolica-en-honduras-es-el-principal-obstaculo-para-avances-sociales/>

In a new article, OFRANEH describes its uphill battle against Indura Hilton and the role of the Attorney General's Office (PGR).

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2017/01/26/persiste-el-indura-hilton-en-despojar-a-la-comunidad-garifuna-de-barra-vieja/>

The Alliance for Peace and Justice (APJ) started yesterday with its first step to evaluate the employees of the MP.

<http://tiempo.hn/ajp-certificacion-del-mp/>

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<http://elpulso.hn/desafios-del-periodismo-hondureno-en-tiempos-de-la-post-verdad/>

28/01/17

IHSS; Corruption; APP; HRDs; Reelections; Women's Rights; Mayors; Fifa; Penal Code; and a House for Tigers

The former Attorney General Edmundo Orellana demanded from the MP to

take seriously the revelations by Carlos Montes and invest it accordingly. InSight Crime took up last week news reports as well.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/27/exfiscal-exige-al-ministerio-publico-no-parar-investigacion-del-mega fraude-contr-a-el-ihss/>

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/money-laundering-links-honduras-panama-us>

Two persons of the coup-administration by Micheletti were found guilty of fraud and breach of the duties of public servants.

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1039022-410/declaran-culpables-a-dos-personas-del-gobierno-de-micheletti>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/27/hallan-culpables-a-dos-exempleados-del-dictador-roberto-micheletti-por-fraude/>

It seems only fitting that under such circumstances, when past and present corruption dominates the headlines, the US ambassador announced that it has the first \$125 million ready for Honduras as part of the Alliance for Prosperity.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/27/embajador-ee-uu-anuncia-primer-desembolso-125-millones-honduras-la-alianza-la-prosperidad/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/01/27/ee-uu-entregara-primer-desembolso-del-plan-alianza/>

The US also spoke \$3 million for the new protection mechanism for human rights defenders.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/27/embajador-de-eeuu-oficializa-entrega-de-tres-millones-de-dolares-a-gobierno-de-honduras/>

The president of the Liberal Party Mauricio Villeda filled an appeal for reversal at the TSE against the inscription of JOH. The National Party, meanwhile, started with public forums called "Let's Talk about the Reelection".

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/27/exigen-a-dos-magistrados-pro-joh-no-pronunciarse-sobre-continismo/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/component/k2/36-proceso-electoral/partido-nacional-inicia-en-choluteca-foros-regionales-hablemos-de-la-reeleccion.html>

According to a new CESPAD report, only 57 out of the 295 municipalities have allocated 5% of their transfers to women's issues as prescribed by

the Municipalities Law.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1617- apenas-57-de-295-alcaldias-cumplen-con-las-transferencias-municipales-a-favor-de-las-mujeres>

Erick Josué Méndez, the 28 year old son son of Libre mayor Francisco Méndez, was shot and later died in a medical center.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/27/hijo-de-alcalde-hondureno-es-acribillado-en-san-pedro-sula/>

The former Honduran president Rafael Callejas has to wait until June for his sentence in the FIFA corruption scandal.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/27/fifagate-aplazan-sentencia-de-expresidente-de-honduras-a-junio/>

Amnesty International adds itself to the list of national and international organization criticizing reforms to the Honduran Penal Code.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/duras-criticas-de-amnistia-internacional-reformas-penales>

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<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-más-noticias/inicia-construccion-de-moderno-complejo-policia-tigres-en-el-progreso.html>

29/01/17

Corruption; Journalists; Violence; Migration; Remittances; and What the First MACCIH Report Doesn't Say

Omar Menjívar, a criminal lawyer and member of MADJ, calls the MP

incompetent given its only 16 convictions for corruption in ten years.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/01/honduras-tenemos-una-fiscalia-contra-la.html>

Criterio sees one of the biggest challenges for the new board of the Honduran Journalists College (CPH) in fomenting a culture of transparency.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/28/practicar-la-cultura-la-transparencia-reto-la-nueva-directiva-los-periodistas/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/28/periodista-sancionado-ocultar-informacion-nuevo-presidente-del-tribunal-honor/>

José Daniel Borjas , a soldier dispatched to protect a bus, was murdered by armed men robbing the passengers.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/28/insolito-matan-a-soldado-de-las-ffaa-de-honduras-mientras-resguardaba-autobus/>

Conadeh's Roberto Herrera Cáceres welcomes the recent joint statement by the International Organization for Migration (OIM) and the UNHCR reacting on Trump's refugee order.

<http://tiempo.hn/conadeh-pide-respeto-los-derechos-humanos-los-inmigrantes/>

<http://www.iom.int/news/joint-iom-unhcr-statement-president-trumps-refugee-order>

But given the newest numbers for remittances to Honduras, it seems that a lot of migrants (rightly) fear the Trump administration.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/un-inusual-incremento-del-41-06-por-ciento-en-el-ingreso-por-remesas-en-honduras-se-registra-en-lo-que-va-de-enero.html>

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<http://elpulso.hn/lo-que-el-primer-informe-semestral-maccih-no-dice/>

30/01/17

HRDs; CEDAW; Elections; and Let's Talk About Local Change

Global Witness will hold a press conference tomorrow in Tegucigalpa,

where they will present their newest report on the situation of human rights defenders in Honduras. They will be accompanied by representatives of MILPAH, CEHPRODEC and COPINH.

US ambassador James D. Nealon tweets in favor of human rights defenders.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1619-en-tegucigalpa-informe-de-global-witness-revelara-quienes-son-los-actores-politicos-y-empresariales-asociados-con-ataques-en-contra-de-defensores-as-de-la-tierra-y-el-medioambiente-en-honduras>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/29/ee-uu-advierde-que-fracasaran-ataques-contra-defensores-de-la-vida-en-honduras/>

<http://tiempo.hn/james-nealon-eeuu-apoya-mecanismo/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the CEDAW Platform, a Honduran social movement hoping to pressure the Honduran state into ratifying the facultative Protocol to CEDAW which extends the protection mechanisms for women's rights.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1618-honduras-salio-aplazada-en-el-comite-cedaw-sobre-respeto-a-derechos-de-las-mujeres>

The director of the RNP complains that the Secretariat of Finance hasn't yet transferred the funds for the coming electoral cycle. The TSE, meanwhile, ordered the printing of no less than 27 million ballot papers.

<http://tiempo.hn/rnp-la-espera-suelten-los-fondos-proceso-electoral/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/29/imprimiran-27-millones-de-papeletas-para-las-elecciones-primarias-del-12-de-marzo/>

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<http://defensoresenlinea.com/instan-a-periodistas-a-contar-historias-de-cambios-locales/>

31/01/17

HRDs; Penitentiary System; Judicial System; Journalists; Arms' Control; National Police; JOH; APP; and the Former President's Sons

COPINH denounces the new campaign of defamation against human rights

defenders before today's presentation of the newest Global Witness Report.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/01/copinh-sigue-la-criminalizacion.html>

The human rights defender Alba Mejía warns of the planned privatization spree of Honduran prisons and she denounces the private interests behind these deals.

Conaprev's Orle Solís stresses that it is the state's duty to be responsible for its inmates.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/30/advierden-jugosos-intereses-en-privatizacion-de-carceles-en-honduras/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2045-honduras-advierden-posible-privatizacion-del-sistema-penitenciario>

Teodoro Bonilla, the former vice-president of the Judiciary Council, will face trial for his role in pressuring a judge to release two of his cousins with supposed links to organized crime.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/30/mandaran-a-juicio-oral-a-exconcejal-teodoro-bonilla-por-pedir-liberacion-de-parientes-mafiosos/>

Félix Cesario Padilla, a former professor at the Journalism School and father of the criminalized journalist Cesario Padilla, was abducted for several hours and threatened before being released again. Journalists not only face outside pressure, but also from within their community as can be seen by a recent statement by Eduin Natividad Romero, the president of the Honour Tribunal of the Honduran Journalists College (CPH).

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/secuestran-temporalmente-ex-catedrático-de-periodismo>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/30/directivo-periodistas-amenaza-limpieza-gremio-usando-expedientes-cuerpos-investigacion/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/presidente-del-tribunal-de-honor-del-cph-amenaza-periodistas>

Proceso Digital criticizes Congress' failure to regulate fire arms or at least to discuss the proposed law. The discussion has continuously been postponed since 2015.

<http://www.proceso.hn/component/k2/10-portada/congreso-da-largas-al-control-de-armas-en-honduras.html>

Apparently, chips will be implanted into police uniforms to guarantee that they are not fake.

La Prensa published an overview of the police leadership.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/30/justificaciones-microchip-en-uniforme-policial-es-para-evitar-falsificaciones/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1039910-410/policía-de-honduras-oficializa-cambio-en-su-cúpula>

As back in 2013, JOH promises once more to lower interests on credit cards.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/01/30/vuelven-las-elecciones-vuelve-joh-promesa-las-tarjetas-credito/>

Proceso Digital reports on how the funds by the Alliance for Prosperity will be allocated.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/en-seguridad-pobreza-y-transparencia-invertira-honduras-primeros-fondos-del-plan-alianza.html>

Another son of the former president Lobo was arrested.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/01/30/ministerio-publico-arresta-a-hijo-del-expresidente-de-honduras-porfirio-lobo/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2048-detienen-a-otro-hijo-de-expresidente-de-honduras>