

01/05/17

Bajo Aguán; (Re)Elections; Violence; Twitter; Journalists; MACCIH; Penal Code; and Sending Off Mejía

The Agrarian Platform denounces the new wave of criminalization of campesinos in the Aguan Valley.

<http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2017/04/gobierno-de-honduras-profundiza.htm>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/libran-ordenes-de-capturas-contralideres-campesinos-del-aguan-denuncia-plataforma-agraria.html>

Pinu decided in its general assembly to run the election as part of the alliance of the political opposition.

According to Manuel Zelaya, the final presidential candidate for the oppositional alliance must fulfill several conditions: i) bring an International Commission against Impunity to Honduras ii) strengthen the rule of law iii) prepare the groundwork to derogate some 40 laws by the former two governments iv) lower energy/petrol prices v) stop the devaluation vi) combat death squads ...

The Christian Democrats (DC), meanwhile, join an alliance with the National Party.

As a reason the DC claimed that both parties are strong supporters of transparency, given the Secrecy Law crafted by the National Party, this probably isn't the most convincing argument.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/04/29/asamblea-del-pinu-aprueba-unirse-la-alianza-opositora/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/04/30/quien-sea-candidato-candidata-la-alianza-debera-cumplir-cuatro-condiciones-mel-zelaya-video/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/04/29/democracia-cristiana-se-une-oficialmente-al-partido-nacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/04/30/la-democracia-cristiana-al-partido-nacional-los-une-la-transparencia-gobernanza-felicito-avila-video/>

According to Casa Alianza, 198 minors and young men and women (under 30) were murdered in March in Honduras, 17 of which were under 17 years old.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/04/29/honduras-casi-200-menores-de-edad-fueron-asesinados-en-marzo-revela-casa-alianza/>

Twitter has blocked the account of Congress' president Mauricio Oliva, the National Party in Congress and Congress' proper Twitter account. Oliva claims that he was the victim of a cyberattack.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/04/30/twitter-suspende-cuentas-bancada-nacionalista-congreso-nacional-presidente-mauricio-oliva/>

<http://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-denuncia-ciber-ataque-cuentas-redes-sociales/>

Ciprodeh held a workshop for some 30 journalists on human rights.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/04/29/capacitan-periodistas-dd-hh-movilidad-humana-plan-alianza-la-prosperidad/>

One of the demands by today's May 1 marches in Honduras are results by MACCIH.

<http://www.honduratierralibre.com/2017/04/honduras-trabajadores-exigiran.html>

287 out of 627 articles of the new Penal Code have been approved by Congress so far.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/04/30/delitos-incluye-nuevo-codigo-penal-no-conmutables/>

Police commissioner Héctor Iván Mejía Velásquez, notorious for his bad human rights track record, will be sent off to Washington to be an advisor for Honduras at the OAS.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/comisionado-ivan-mejia-va-como-agregado-en-la-oea.html>

02/05/17

May 1; Repression; IACHR; HRDs; Campesinxs; Water; Coca Cola; Bank Secrecy; Renewable Energy; and the Life of a Private Security Guard

Honduras' labor union and social movements took to the street yesterday

on May 1 protesting against the deterioration of labor laws, but also against human rights violations by the Honduran state in general. The protesters also rejected the presidential reelection. Radio Progreso lists protests against the toll booths, mining and hydroelectricity as some of the main demands by the protesters. Radio Progreso's director Ismael Moreno, meanwhile, sees a demobilization of the popular movement and he calls for a new commitment going beyond the nostalgic marches of May 1.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/manifiesto-del-1-de-mayo-desnuda-la-realidad-de-un-pais-entregado-al-capital-transnacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/01/trabajadores-honduras-rechazan-reeleccion-joh-dia/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3617-mayo>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/01/padre-melo-advierte-al-movimiento-social-y-sindicalismo-sobre-una-nueva-dictadura/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3616-la-necesidad-de-nuevas-alianzas-populares-01-mayo-2017>

During the May 1 march, Libre candidate for Congress Pedro Joaquín Amador was brutally attacked by the police and arrested as he tried to support a young member by the of the National Popular Resistance Front (FNRP), who was being arrested by the police under false claims. The police claims that Amador head-banged a police officer and this was the cause for his wound... JOH, meanwhile, had the Casa Presidencial heavily protected, even though the official route was far away from it. And on national television he presented himself as a defender of workers' rights.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/01/policia-dispara-joven-libre-luego-lo-lleva-presos-junto-defensor/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/01/policia-reprime-trabajadores-gritar-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/detienen-y-golpean-candidato-a-diputado-de-libre-en-tegucigalpa.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/01/insolito-militarizan-casa-presidencial-de-honduras-por-posibles-manifestaciones/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/01/joh-felicita-a-trabajadores-hondurenos-y-se-jacta-de-lesivas-reformas-laborales/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica/18-politica/hernandez-felicita-a-obreros-hondurenos-y-pide-a-empleadores-reconocer-derechos.html>

"The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) condemns the attack in Honduras on April 13, 2017, carried out against Moisés Sánchez, General Secretary of a chapter of the STAS union of agricultural workers, and his brother, Misael Sánchez, who is also

affiliated with that labor union."

[https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/media\\_center/PReleases/2017/056.asp](https://www.oas.org/en/iachr/media_center/PReleases/2017/056.asp)

La Tribuna reports on the protection mechanism for human rights defenders. Apparently, a part of the proposed measures is to wear a bullet-proof vest.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/05/01/chalecos-antibalas-se-protegen-servidores-publicos/>

La Vía Campesina emitted a press release on May 1 denouncing the treatment of the campesino movement by the Honduran government and demanding the adoption of the Agrarian Reform and Food Sovereignty Bill.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-la-impunidad-en-nuestro-pais.html>

SANAA warns that the Honduran capital has only water reserves left for 20 days if it won't rain soon.

<http://tiempo.hn/alerta-solo-20-dias-agua-tegucigalpa-segun-sanaa/>

El Pulso reports on the divorce of Coca Cola and the Cervecería Hondureña S.A and its consequences for organized labor.

<http://elpulso.hn/coca-cola-company-y-su-divorcio-de-la-cerverceria-hodurena/>

Both Fosdeh and the Supreme Court warn of possible changes to the bank secrecy law.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/modificar-ley-de-secreto-bancario-tiene-sus-riesgos-consideraci%C3%B3n-del-fosdeh>

According to ENEE, energy from renewable sources exceeds currently thermal energy.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/en-honduras-la-generaci%C3%B3n-de-energ%C3%AD-renovable-supera-la-t%C3%A9rmica>

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<http://elpulso.hn/la-inseguridad-laboral-de-un-guardia-de-seguridad/>

03/05/17

Berta - Commemoration; COPINH; Impunity; Mining; Students' Protest; Libre; Labor Unions; (Re)Elections; JOH; Armed Forces; Journalists; and Mayors on Trial

Ocote Films and the human rights organization CADEHO commemorate Berta

by publishing the documentary "The Voice of the Gualcarque River" online.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/component/k2/item/1733-documental-la-voz-del-gualcarque>

<http://ocotefilms.wixsite.com/lavozdelgualcarque>

COPINH denounces attacks and threats against their members in Río Blanco. Throughout April, corn and bean fields of COPINH members were burned and they were threatened with machetes and fire arms. COPINH accuses Aquilino Madrid and Virgilio Madrid for the acts.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/05/alerta-copinh-denuncia-agresiones.html>

91% of the 69 assassinations of journalists between 2001 and 2017 are unpunished.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/05/02/impune-91-crimenes-personal-medios/>

Javier Suazo reports on the recently (midst of April) held forum on the impacts of mining and proposals by civil society. He ends the article by calling out to the presidential candidates of all parties to present their plans regarding mining.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/185183>

State security forces in the form of COBRAS repressed a protest by students against the extension by 60 days of the current UNAH board of directors.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/reprimen-a-universitarios-que-se-oponen-a-extension-de-periodo-de-autoridades/>

Libre denounces yesterday's attack against and arrest of its candidate for Congress Pedro Amador. The Honduran state, meanwhile, announced to press legal charges against Amador, still claiming that he attacked the police agents.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-comunicado-del-partido-libertd.html>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1732-despues-movilizacion-del-01-de-mayo-policias-golpean-disparan-y-detienen-a-militantes-de-la-resistencia>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/02/secretaria-seguridad-justifica-golpiza-detencion-jovenes-ayer-tras-la-movilizacion-del-1-mayo/>

Libre congressman Bartolo Fuentes denounces that some labor unions have received money from the government.

<http://tiempo.hn/segun-bartolo-fuentes-dirigentes-obreros-reciben-sobornos-del-gobierno/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/algunos-dirigentes-obreros-reciben-cheques-del-gobierno-denuncia-diputado-fuentes.html>

After the Christian Democrats, it is time for UD to announce its alliance with the National Party. Things are less clear on the side of the political opposition. While some days back, Liberal presidential candidate Luis Zelaya said that he could win against JOH even without the oppositional alliance, he now says that even with the alliance things are going to be difficult. PAC president Salvador Nasralla unexpectedly announced that he won't be part of the alliance and that he won't even run in the general elections if the TSE insists that PAC holds internal elections on May 21. At the same time, PAC accuses its own congressman to be in cahoots with the National Party...  
...what he denies. Manuel Zelaya claims that the alliance can't be destroyed. And he announces an emergency national meeting on May 21 to discuss the matter.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/02/partidos-bonsais-anuncian-alianza-con-el-orlandismo/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/02/con-o-sin-alianza-los-escenarios-para-enfrentar-a-hernandez-son-dificiles-luis-zelaya/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2230-nasralla-anuncia-que-ya-no-participara-en-alianza-politica>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/02/cuando-dije-digo-dije-diego-nasralla-rechaza-ir-a-coalicion-sin-el-pac/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/02/exclusiva-criterio-hn-dirigencia-del-pac-denunciara-walter-banegas-estar-confabulado-partido-nacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/02/no-traidor-al-pac-alianzas-partido-nacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/02/mel-zelaya-dice-la-alianza-indestructible/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/02/zelaya-convoca-a-reunion-de-emergencia-por-ruptura-de-alianza-a-manos-de-salvador-nasralla/>

Former TSE magistrate Denis Gomez says that JOH and all functionaries running for election should step down at least six months before the election as demanded by the Electoral Law.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/juicio-de-ex-magistrado-del-tse-debe-renunciar-el-mandatario-y-sus-funcionarios>

The MP demands a 53 year long prison sentence for two members of the Armed Forces accused of murder.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/solicitan-pena-concreta-contrad-dos-oficiales-de-las-ffaa-por-asesinato-y-abuso-de-autoridad>

El Pulso interviews journalist José Manuel Torres Calderón talking about journalism in Honduras and the coming elections.

<http://elpulso.hn/manuel-torres-calderon-lo-que-esta-en-disputa-actualmente-es-el-control-de-los-territorios-y-sus-recursos/>

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<http://tiempo.hn/momento-dos-alcaldes-condenados-al-menos-15-procesados/>

04/05/17

Hydroelectricity; Journalists; JOH; Abortion; Corruption; Tasa de Seguridad; National Police; Unemployment; Economy; and Less Money from the US

The representative of the UN Human Rights Office in Honduras, María

Soledad Pazo, visited the communities Mezapa and Pajuiles near Tela, both of which are resisting a hydroelectric project.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3623-derechos-humanos-de-la-onu-visita-comunidades-de-tela-que-se-oponen-a-hidroel%C3%A9ctrica>

Honduras commemorated yesterday the International Day of Press Freedom by remembering those who lost their lives for holding up this principle.

Next to the assassinations of journalists, Proceso Digital lists further challenges of the profession, such as laws attacking freedom of expression or digital violence.

US ambassador James D. Nealon calls the press the "eyes, ears and voice of the people."

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2231-honduras-69-periodistas-no-pedirán-libertad-de-expresion>

<http://www.proceso.hn/salud-y-sociedad/5-salud-y-sociedad/periodistas-enfrentan-profundos-desafios-en-honduras.html>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/%E2%80%99Cla-prensa-son-los-ojos-o%C3%ADdos-y-la-voz-del-pueblo%E2%80%9D-nealon>

Using a tool by the Institute for Access to Public Information, C-Libre requested information at the TSC about the wealth of JOH, i.e. how it changed since 2010, when he became president of Congress.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2236-cuanto-ha-crecido-la-riqueza-del-presidente-de-honduras>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/03/c-libre-solicita-informacion-patrimonio-joh-los-anos-2010-al-2017/>

The majority of Congress voted against the decriminalization of therapeutic abortion.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/03/congreso-honduras-se-niega-despenalizar-aborto/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/comision-multipartidaria-del-codigo-penal-decide-no-despenalizar-figura-del-aborto.html>

Mario Díaz, member of the Association of Judges for Democracy, hopes that this month the anti-corruption judges and magistrates start their work. The MP and ATIC caught former functionaries of the San Pedro Sula mayoralty which are suspected to be involved in a 100 million Lempiras corruption case.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/se-espera-que-este-mes-comiencen-a-funcionar-jueces-anticorrupcion-y-antiextorsion.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/atic-capturas-exempleados-alcaldia-sampedrana-malversacion-millonaria.html>

Radio Progreso questions if the 9 billion Lempiras raised by the tasa de seguridad between 2012 and 2016 had any positive effect, meanwhile the negative effects of the repressive public security model it financed are obvious. It, therefore, goes on to call for a tasa de seguridad humana based on a more inclusive, community-security model.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3621-de-la-tasa-de-seguridad-ciudadana-a-la-tasa-de-seguridad-humana-03-mayo-2017>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/03/continuan-militarizando-zonas-calientes-prosigue-violencia/>

In a press release, the purging committee claims that they are looking with utmost diligence the future leaders of the new police force.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/03/buscan-con-lupa-a-quienes-dirigiran-la-policia-nacional-de-honduras-depurador/>

According to the labor union CUTH, there are more than 1.5 million people unemployed in Honduras.

<http://tiempo.hn/millon-desempleados-hay-en-honduras/>

ILO's director for Central America, Carmen Moreno, calls the Central American countries to change their economic model away from agriculture.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/03/oit-llama-centroamerica-cambiar-modelo-produccion-agricola/>

According to Criterio, the newest budget by the Trump administration counts with \$95 million less for Central America than in 2016.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/03/congreso-ee-uu-recorta-fondos-centroamerica-los-incrementa-colombia/>

05/05/17

HRDs; Bajo Aguán; Journalists; Abortion; IHSS; MP; Judicial Power; MACCIH; Impunity; Reelection; and 10 Years of Transparency?

The Supreme Court announced that it dropped the criminalization case

against human rights defender Gladys Lanza, who died last year. COFADEH demands a public apology of the Supreme Court for having her

accused in the first place.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/sala-de-lo-penal-sobreesee-post-mortem-a-dirigente-feminista-gladys-lanza.html>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/csj-deberia-pedir-disculpas-por-haber-acusado-a-gladys-lanza/>

Pasos de Animal Grande spoke with Yoni Rivas about the tense situation in the Bajo Aguán.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1734-persecucion-e-infuncionalidad-de-medidas-de-proteccion-para-el-movimiento-campesino-del-aguan>

The UN Human Rights Office in Honduras emitted a press release in support of the Honduran journalists on May 3, the International Day of Press Freedom.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/en-el-dia-mundial-de-la-libertad-de-prensa-la-oficina-del-alto-comisionado-resalta-el-rol-clave-de-la-prensa-para-fomentar-la-paz-la-tolerancia-y-el-dialogo/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1735-precario-situacion-de-libertad-de-expresion-para-periodistas-y-comunicadores-en-honduras>

Somos Muchas denounces the decision by Congress not to decriminalize therapeutic abortion.

Pinu congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez proposes a plebiscite during the general elections to ask the Honduran people about their opinion regarding the decriminalization of therapeutic abortion.

Even CONADEH asked Congress to investigate possible exceptions.

Just yesterday, a woman was arrested for supposedly using an abortive drug and both her name and picture are published online...

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/04/honduras-se-imponen-las-iglesias-los-politicos-oscurantistas-no-despenalizar-aborto-somos-muchas/>

<http://elpulso.hn/plebiscito-aborto/>

<http://tiempo.hn/conadeh-pide-examinar-excepciones-tema-aborto/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/05/04/detienen-mujer-uso-pastillas-abortar/>

The trial in the case of the fake companies used to drain money from the IHSS continued yesterday.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/04/reanudan-juicio-empresas-fantasmas-del-ihss/>

The current attorney general, Óscar Chinchilla, was nominated as a new magistrate at the Central American Court of Justice.

The former attorney general, Edmundo Orellana Mercado, believes that the corruption investigation in Honduras have come to close to people close to JOH and this nomination is a way to transfer him abroad. Because this goes against the interests of the US, Orealla believes that JOH is "playing with fire."

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/04/nombran-a-oscar-chinchilla-como-magistrado-centroamericano-seguira-al-frente-del-ministerio-publico/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/04/investigaciones-estan-cerca-gente-importante-del-gobierno-sacan-chinchilla-edmundo-orellana/>

The former president of the Association of Judges for Democracy, Mario Díaz, was nominated as the coordinator of the sentencing tribunals.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/04/nombran-a-reconocido-juez-como-coordinador-de-tribunales-de-sentencia-en-honduras/>

The National Party asked MACCIH to audit its candidates regarding the

funding of their campaign.  
MACCIH announced that it is willing to accompany any party on its way to more transparency.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/04/nacionalistas-piden-ayuda-a-maccih-para-certificar-candidatos-para-elecciones-generales/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/04/partido-nacional-pide-capacitacion-la-maccih-respetar-ley-politica-limpia/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/maccih-capacitara-a-partidos-politicos-que-lo-soliciten.html>

Omar Rivera, member of the purging committee sees criminal investigating, or the lack of it, as the biggest challenge for security in Honduras. Only 4 out of 100 homicide cases end before a court and get sentenced and only 9% of all homicide cases have a complete file on the investigation.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/04/investigacion-criminal-sigue-siendo-talon-aquiles-la-seguridad-honduras-omar-rivera/>

The Citizen Convergence for the Rescue of Our Democracy held a press conference yesterday, in which they presented proposals to nullify the decision by the Supreme Court which opened the way for JOH's reelection.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2239-hondurenos-anuncian-propuestas-para-revertir-ilegitima-reeleccion>

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<http://www.conexihon.hn/entre-avances-y-retrocesos-ley-de-transparencia-cumple-10-anos-de-vigencia>

06/05/17

FoE; Bajo Aguán; PAC; Corruption; JOH; Fiscal Policy; National Police; Abortion; Forced Displacement; Remittances; and the Eternal Banana Republic

In a press release, the MP announced that two army officials will face a trial for closing two media outlets during the coup d'état in 2009.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/05/tres-seis-anos-carcel-podrian-recibir-dos-altos-oficiales-las-ff-aa-cerraron-una-radio-golpe-2009/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/05/procesaran-judicialmente-a-dos-coroneles-por-cerrar-radios-antigolpistas/>

Defensores en Línea reports on the criminalizing trial against indigenous Lenca campesino Carlos Jeovanny López Cáliz.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/en-honduras-se-criminaliza-a-campesinos-demandantes-de-tierras/>

The dispute inside PAC and with the TSE about its internal elections continues. PAC tried to improve its negotiating position with a publication in La Gaceta, which according to El Pulso won't work. PAC's president Salvador Nasralla believes that the publication in La Gaceta of the results of the first internal elections on April 9 make them valid and that the TSE, therefore, breaks the law by forcing them to vote again.

The TSE, meanwhile, ordered PAC to inscribed five movements for the internal elections on May 21 in the next 24 hours. Maybe as a reaction to that, Salvador Nasralla suddenly announced his withdrawal from PAC and that he is now part of the opposition alliance.

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

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/05/nasralla-llama-simpatizantes-no-asistir-las-elecciones-del-21-mayo/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/05/tse-da-plazo-24-horas-salvador-nasralla-presente-planilla/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/05/salvador-nasralla-anuncia-salida-abrupta-del-partido-anticorrupcion/>

Manuel Zelaya announced via Twitter, that him running again for president is still a possibility, but that his main goal is to unite the opposition.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/05/mel-zelaya-dice-candidatura-todavia-una-posibilidad/>

The MP ordered an investigation into the former Attorney General Luis Alberto Rubí for corruption.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/05/libran-requerimiento-fiscal-contra-ex-jefe-del-ministerio-publico-de-honduras/>

Hugo Noé Pino, the director of the Central-American Institute for Fiscal Studies (Icefi), criticizes JOH's disproportional power in deciding by himself on the spending of public resources.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/05/joh-goza-discrecionalidad-manejo-los-recursos-publicos-hugo-noe-pino/>

Icefi together with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation presented a new study on the importance of aligning Honduras' fiscal policy with the Sustainable Development Goals.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/05/finanzas-publicas-miopes-impiden-dificultan-cumplimiento-objetivos-desarrollo-sostenible-2030/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3627-la-otra-cara-de-la-moneda-05-mayo-2017>

The press speaker of the National Police tries to portray the relocation of police commissioner Héctor Iván Mejía to the OAS as a honor for the latter, when it is more likely due to outside pressure.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/05/nombramiento-de-hector-ivan-mejia-en-la-oea-es-honroso/>

The Coalition against Impunity denounces the continuing criminalization of therapeutic abortion in Honduras.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/no-a-la-penalizacion-del-aborto/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/dios-y-el-diablo-otra-vez/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1736-contra-la-voluntad-de-las-mujeres-el-parlamento-hondureno-aprobo-articulo-penalizando-el-aborto>

Radio Progreso reports on forced displacement in Honduras and its effect on women.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3631-mujeres-son-las-mayores-v%C3%ADctimas-de-desplazamiento-forzado-por-violencia-en-honduras>

According to calculations by the Central Bank of Honduras, taxing remittances could bring in \$64 million.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/alrededor-de-64-millones-de-d%C3%B3lares-dejar%C3%AD-de-percibir-honduras-de-cobrase-el-2-de>

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<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3630-honduras-banana-republic-y-su-eterna-entrega-de-la-soberan%C3%ADa>

07/05/17

Political Opposition; National Party; Mining; Women; Forced Displacement; and the Fight About Remittances

Salvador Nasralla got the support by both Libre and Pinu to jointly

protest the treatment by the TSE PAC. In a press release, the three parties also denounce the unwillingness by the party in power to implement the promised electoral reforms and they announce further actions for defending the right to participate.

Nasralla questions the validity of La Gaceta as the their primary election results supposedly haven't gained official recognition by being published in it.

PAC members also protested outside the TSE- El Pulso delivers a first analysis.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/06/alianza-oposicion-amenaza-impugnar-elecciones-generales-convoca-las-calles-defender-derechos/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/06/diario-oficial-la-gaceta-no-ninguna-validez-honduras-nasralla/>

<http://tiempo.hn/payasos-llegan-representantes-del-pac-protestar-decision-del-tse/>

<http://elpulso.hn/sn-sin-pac/>

The National Party, instead of reacting to the criticism regarding the electoral reforms, just praised itself for all its work in the last years. And JOH, meanwhile, tries to present himself as a defender of the poor.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/06/nacionalistas-ofendidos-por-los-los-fuertes-cuestionamientos-de-la-oposicion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/debemos-consolidar-el-proceso-de-atencion-a-los-mas-pobres-de-honduras-presidente-hernandez.html>

Radio Progreso writes about the important role of the church in the fight against the extractive industry in Latin America.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3632-iglesia-y-bienes-comunes-06-mayo-2017>

The MP stressed once more its willingness to work with the "Women's City" (Ciudad Mujer) project.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/ministerio-p%C3%BAblico-comprometido-con-el-trabajo-que-se-realiza-en-%E2%80%99Ciudad-mujer%E2%80%99D>

CONADEH lists more than 750 cases of forced displacements of families in 2016 for death threats, extortion or fear of forced recruitment of their children by organized crime.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/amenazas-a-muerte-y-extorsiones-tienen-de-correr-a-centenares-de-familias-hondurenas-conadeh.html>

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<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-impuesto-de-remesas-en-eeuu.html>

08/05/17

HRDs; Coup d'état; Political Alliance; (Re)Elections; US; National Police; and Transparency?!

The director of ACI-Participa, Hedme Castro, denounces in an open

letter, that her Facebook account was hacked by an agent of the Investigative Police Bureau (DPI).

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1739-defensora-de-derechos-humanos-denuncia-que-investigador-de-la-policia-incursiona-en-su-facebook>

The presidential candidate of the Liberal Party, Luis Zelaya, asked for forgiveness during its general assembly for its participation in the coup d'état against Manuel Zelaya and with it he asked everyone to who left the party then to come back.

Manuel Zelaya, referring to the asking for forgiveness, calls it a "historic and noble act".

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/07/candidato-liberal-pide-perdon-por-el-golpe-de-estado-de-2009-en-honduras/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/07/luis-zelaya-pide-perdon-golpe-estado/>

During the same assembly, the Liberal Party members gave Luis Zelaya the permission to join the alliance...if he is chosen as their presidential candidate.

Hours before the decision, Salvador Nasralla told Criterio in an interview, that the alliance will choose its candidates based on who they think will move the most people to vote for her/him and who has the least votes against her/him, i.e. causes the least negative feelings.

Luis Zelaya reacted to that by saying that with or without the alliance, the Liberal Party will win in November.

Former Liberal TSE magistrate, Enrique Ortez Sequeira, thinks that the alliance should think bigger, i.e. including not only parties but other social powers, such as campesinos, students, labor unions...

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/07/liberales-acuerdan-alianza-la-oposicion-siempre-cuando-la-encabecen/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/07/partido-liberal-no-poner-condiciones-integrarse-la-alianza-nasralla/>

<http://tiempo.hn/salvador-nasralla-pone-requisitos-luis-zelaya-integrar-la-alianza/>

<http://tiempo.hn/luis-zelaya-sin-alianza-partido-liberal-ganara-noviembre/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/enrique-ortez-sequeira-dice-que-alianza-de-oposicion-no-debe-ser-como-reparticion-electoral.html>

El Pulso published an analysis by Óscar Borge Mejía about the political landscape before the coming general elections.

<http://elpulso.hn/la-destruccion-del-pac-senor-luis-zelaya-diga-esta-boca-es-mia/>

InSight Crime reports on the new database by the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), the "Defense Oversight Research Database", which it hopes will lead to improved monitoring and evaluation of US security programs in Latin America.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/database-increase-transparency-us-security-aid-latam>

ATIC captured a fugitive police inspector accused of murder.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/atic-captura-inspectora-de-polic%C3%AD-acusada-de-homicidio-culposo>

JOH is on a new PR-offensive with its participation in CoST (Construction Sector Transparency Initiative). I just say Trans 450...

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/05/07/cost-designa-campeon-transparencia-honduras/>

<http://www.constructiontransparency.org/cost-honduras-cost-malawi-win-transparency-citizen-engagement-ogp-summit?forumboardid=3136&forumtopicid=3136>

<http://www.constructiontransparency.org/honduras>

09/05/17

COPINH; Political Opposition; Worker's Rights; MP; MACCIH; Judicial System; Corruption; IHSS; Penitentiary System; Poverty; Deportation; Pretty Woman...Walking out of Prison

"An interview with Lenca activist Pascuala Vásquez on the legacy of

Berta Cáceres and the defense of indigenous territories and culture in Honduras."

<https://nacla.org/news/2017/05/08/heaven-and-earth-don%27t-belong-companies>

Daniel Esponda presents the challenges of government for the alliance of the political opposition if they were to succeed in winning the elections. In an online survey by Criterio, the majority (38%) of the 2278 participants want Salvador Nasralla to be the presidential candidate of the opposition.

The coming days will be important for the alliance, as they have only until May 25 to inscribe their candidate at the TSE.

<http://elpulso.hn/los-retos-de-la-oposicion-ante-las-elecciones-generales/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/08/nasralla-encabezar-la-alianza-opositora-segun-encuesta-criterio/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2246-dias-claves-para-la-oposicion-politica-en-honduras>

The international labor union UITA held a press conference in Tegucigalpa, after a one week visit to Honduras. They denounce the dire situation of labor rights in Honduras. For a specific case, see the following news item.

"Between April 5-7th, 2017, U.S.-based Delta Apparel fired over 40 workers that suffer from crippling musculoskeletal injuries, from their factory in Villanueva, Cortés, Honduras. Most have worked with the company for over 10 years. 25 of the 40 workers have refused to accept any settlements and are demanding that Delta Apparel give them their jobs back."

The UITA delegation also informed about the decision by the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) to suspend the membership of the Irish transnational company Fyffes, which is denounced for various labor rights infringements in Honduras.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/uita-denuncia-un-modelo-economico-en-honduras-que-suprime-los-derechos-de-los-trabajadores-y-trabajadoras/>

<http://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2017/5/8/solidarity-actions-needed-tell-us-company-delta-apparel-to-give-25-injured-honduran-workers-their-jobs-back>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/sexta-mision-uita-en-honduras-eti-suspende-a-fyffes-por-violacion-de-derechos-laborales-y-sindicales/>

The UITA delegation (see above) sent an open letter to Attorney General Oscar Chinchilla expressing their preoccupation about the criminalization of campesinxs and other human rights defenders.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/mision-de-la-uita-envia-nota-al-fiscal-general-de-honduras/>

MACCIH openly voiced its support for the Attorney General and his work expressing its hope that he stays on until the end of 2018. This is a reaction to his nomination as a judge for the Central-American Court of Justice.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/maccih-declara-su-conformidad-con-las-funciones-del-fiscal-general-de-la-rep%C3%BAblica>

JOH announced the creation of a commission to investigate the possibility to lower the age for trying minors as adults.

COIPRODEN's president Wilmer Vásquez condemns this attempt and he warns that Honduras already has the possibility to hold 12 year-old children responsible for a crime with deleterious effects.

Guadalupe Ruelas, the director of Casa Alianza, calls it a desperate act by JOH.

And Omar Rivera, coordinator of the Association for a More Just Society, calls for more social programs for children and teenagers.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/08/presidente-honduras-plantea-reducir-la-edad-punible/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/08/energica-respuesta-del-defensor-de-ddhh-a-propuesta-de-juzgar-penalmente-a-los-ninos/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/08/invertir-la-ninez-honduras-vez-mandarlos-la-carcel-wilmer-vasquez-coiproden/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/08/reducir-edad-punible-discurso-desesperado-joh-no-perder-los-votos-director-casa-alianza/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/08/la-par-la-represion-la-delincuencia-juvenil-deben-implementarse-programas-atencion-la-ninez-omar-rivera/>

ConfidencialHN published the first part of an investigative report into a corruption case involving the public University Hospital.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/08/misteriosos-contratos-del-hospital-escuela-cuestan-a-los-hondurenos-125-millones-parte-i/>

The MP widened the list of involved people in the IHSS corruption case by accusing Juan Carlos Berganza of having received large amounts of money by his former wife Susette Atuán Rojas, who already has been arrested for her supposed participation in case.

Because Berganza is the legal guardian of PAC, the accusation has a strong political dimension.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/08/acusan-a-reconocido-abogado-juan-carlos-berganza-por-haber-participado-en-mega fraude-al-ihss/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/como-ataque-al-pac-califica-abogado-berganza-senalamientos-del-mp.html>

Berta Oliva, general coordinator of COFADEH, denounces a "double torture and punishment" of inmates and their family members. New legal dispositions implemented by the JOH government stop family members from visiting inmates if they themselves had at one point in life had an encounter with the legal system.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/08/cuestionan-la-doble-tortura-del-estado-contra-privados-de-libertad-y-sus-familiares/>

According to Fosdeh, 65% of Hondurans live in poverty, i.e. 5.7 million. Of those, 3.7 million get by with less than \$2 a day. Their situation is made worse by rising prices for basic goods.

<http://tiempo.hn/fosdeh-65-hondurenos-viven-la-pobreza/>

<http://hondudiario.com/2017/05/07/se-disparo-el-precio-de-55-productos-basicos/>

"The 104-page [Human Rights Watch] report, "Systemic Indifference: Dangerous & Substandard Medical Care in Immigration Detention," reveals systemic failures, such as unreasonable delays in care and unqualified medical staff, that are likely to expose a record number of people to dangerous conditions under President Donald Trump's ramped-up deportation and detention plans."

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/05/08/us-detention-hazardous-immigrants-health>

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<http://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1069318-410/reo-que-intent%C3%B3-fugarse-vestido-de-mujer-ser%C3%ADa-enviado-a-el-pozo>

10/05/17

Bajo Aguán; IACHR; Electoral Reform; Penal Code; ASJ; Corruption; Labor Rights; HRDs; Penitentiary System; HIV; and Forgiveness in the Eye of a Priest

The Agrarian Platform of the Bajo Aguán denounces that the court in

Trujillo supports big land owners in their quest to criminalize campesinos, even though in the newest case three of the nine accused are beneficiaries of special protective measures granted by the IACHR.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/tribunales-de-trujillo-al-servicio-los-teratenientes/>

Radio Progreso takes a look at the newest annual report by the IACHR. In it, they dedicate 70 pages to follow up on the recommendations made to Honduras in 2015 and the picture doesn't look good.

<http://radioprogreso.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3634-los-derechos-humanos-en-honduras-a-la-luz-del-informe-anual-2016-de-la-cidh-09-mayo-2017>

A special congressional commission chose yesterday, in the presence of MACCIH, the 30 final candidates for the commissioner position at the new Clean Politics Unit. The problem was that out of the 10 congresswomen of the commission only 4 were present belonging to the National and Liberal Party.

<http://elpulso.hn/upl-4dips/>

JOH's plan to lower the age for criminal convictions has now been officially announced in a press release by the government. It continues to be greeted by strong criticism. But, both the Catholic church and the Evangelical churches in Honduras greet the initiative - given their role in Honduras, this is sadly not surprising.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/09/joh-va-serio-reduccion-la-edad-punible-conforma-comision/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/wilfredo-mendez-propuesta-de-reducir-edad-punible-es-demagogica-irresponsable/>

<http://tiempo.hn/honduras-varios-sectores-se-pronuncian-favor-la-reduccion-edad-punible/>

In two instances, the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) revealed its closeness to the government. Its president Carlos Hernández defended JOH's plan to lower the age for criminal convictions. And its coordinator Omar Rivera, furthermore, tried to speak up to progress made regarding transparency to divert attention away from Honduras' failure to qualify for the Millennium Challenge Account. At the same time, ASJ, in the form of its lead investigator Lester Ramírez, is aware that some "big fish" will have to fall for the Honduran public to believe in progress in this area, something that may go against the grain of Honduras' leadership.

<http://tiempo.hn/honduras-varios-sectores-se-pronuncian-favor-la-reduccion-edad-punible/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/dirigente-civil-recomienda-no-obviar-avances-en-transparencia/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/lester-ramirez-si-no-se-castigan-peces-gordos-no-se-percibira-la-transparencia/>

Cabinet secretary Ebal Díaz didn't feel comfortable to explain why

Honduras once more failed to qualify for the Millennium Challenge Account. MACCIH, meanwhile, calls out to the Honduran authorities to detain those individuals linked to corruption and with open arrest warrants.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/no-huyas-cobarde-asesor-de-joh-se-larga-al-no-poder-contestar-fracaso-ante-cuenta-del-milenio/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/jefe-de-la-maccih-pide-a-las-autoridades-hondurenas-capturar-a-sospechosos-de-corrupcion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/maccih-vuelve-a-urgir-a-autoridades-ejecutar-ordenes-de-captura-por-corrupcion.html>

Criterio reports on the strike by over 2000 works of Chiquita Honduras. They have been on strike for nine days now demanding collective contracts and better health care.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/09/mas-2-mil-trabajadores-chiquita-brand-cumplen-9-dias-paro-labores-exigiendo-contrato-colectivo-mejor-plan-salud/>

The National Council for the Protection of HRDs, a state body, held a workshop on its protection mechanism.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/09/consejo-nacional-elabora-propuesta-marco-estrategico-del-mecanismo-proteccion-derechos-humanos/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/consejo-nacional-de-protecci%C3%B3n-define-mecanismo-de-defensa-de-ddhh>

10 minors, supposedly belonging to the Mara 18 broke out of the youth prison Renaciendo and this just a week after the most recent prison break there.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/nueva-fuga-de-pelicula-se-escapan-10-menores-de-la-mara-18-del-centro-carcelario-renaciendo/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/se-escapan-10-menores-de-centro-de-rehabilitacion-renaciendo.html>

Carmen Martínez, a representative of the Central-American Network of People with HIV, denounces the discrimination against people with HIV. The discrimination is even worse when you are also poor, leading most people directly into a vicious circle.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/09/la-enfermedad-no-mata-la-discriminacion-si/>

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<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/pedir-perdon-es-un-acto-demagogico-solo-para-ganar-adeptos-evelio-reyes.html>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2248-pastor-golpista-orgullo-de-haber-roto-orden-constitucional-en-honduras>

11/05/17

Penal Code; Armed Forces; Gladys Lanza; HRDs; Bajo Aguán; Electoral Reform; National Party; Political Opposition; PAC; Libre; (Re)Elections; Public Health; Labor Unions; Human Trafficking; Corruption; Journalists; ENEE; and the People Honduras Needs

A former functionary proposed to lower the age for criminal persecution

to 14 years.

Raúl Suazo, a criminal lawyer, warns that Honduras may face sanctions if they go about it.

And there is continuous opposition to the plans by civil society

organizations.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/proponen-reducir-la-edad-punible-de-18-14-%C3%B1os>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/sanciones-podr%C3%AD-enfrentar-honduras-de-reducir-la-edad-punible>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1741-director-de-casa-alianza-tenemos-un-gobierno-que-estaria-dispuesto-a-quemar-ninos-con-tal-de-tener-votos>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/10/red-coiproden-llama-al-estado-honduras-evitar-retroceso-los-dd-hh-las-los-adolescentes-conflicto-la-ley/>

According to National Congressman David Chávez, Congress is planning a new Military Penal Code.

<http://tiempo.hn/revelan-congreso-nacional-estructurara-nuevo-codigo-penal-militar/>

The Women's Movement Paz Visitación Padilla published an open letter stating that they were informed about the dismissal of proceedings against Gladys Lanza, who died last year. They denounce that this comes too late and they demand an apology for the criminalization of her.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/con-rabia-e-impotencia-las-chonas-reciben-absolucion-de-gladys-lanza/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/las-chonas-manifiestan-su-dolor-por-justicia-tardia-para-gladys-lanza.html>

Pueblos held an interview with Jennifer Ávila, who recently produced a documentary together with Radio Progreso and ERIC about the evictions of Garífuna communities in the Bahía de Tela. And the Huffington Post published an article by Bianca Jagger denouncing the murder of environmental defenders in Latin America.

<http://www.revistapueblos.org/?p=21752>

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/stop-the-murder-of-environmental-defenders-in-latin-america\\_us\\_591345c4e4b0e3bb894d5caf](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/stop-the-murder-of-environmental-defenders-in-latin-america_us_591345c4e4b0e3bb894d5caf)

After another day in court in Trujillo, Defensores en Línea reports that six campesino leaders were allowed to leave police custody under the condition that they sign a sheet of paper every 15 days at the court, not leave the country, not speak to the workers of Agropalma and not return to the land for which they were accused of usurping.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/libertad-condicional-para-lideres-campesinos-del-aguan/>

Congress will interview next week the 30 candidates for the three open positions as commissioner at the newly created unit to control party finances.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/10/definen-fechas-para-evaluar-a-los-nuevos-reguladores-del-financiamientos-de-campanas-politicas/>

It can be doubted that the reforms will bring substantial progress, given that the links between the IHSS corruption case and the National Party still haven't led to any convictions or even in-depths investigations. It is, therefore, a bit cynical when the National Party gets publicity for receiving training by MACCIH about party finances.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/10/empresas-maletin-companias-establecidas-obligadas-depositar-la-campana-del-partido-nacional/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/maccih-inicia-con-el-pn-la-capacitacion-sobre-ley-de-politica-limpia.html>

Javier Suazo deliberate on the position of Liberal presidential

candidate Luis Zelaya regarding the oppositional alliance.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/185388>

Now Walter Banegas also withdrew from the internal elections at PAC. PAC congressman visited yesterday various embassies to inform them about the situation of their party and the mistreatment by the TSE of it. The TSE, meanwhile, announced an emergency meeting to discuss the situation.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/10/walter-banegas-se-retira-de-elecciones-internas-del-pac/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/10/walter-banegas-no-participara-las-elecciones-internas-del-pac/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/10/diputados-del-pac-inician-gira-embajadas-dando-conocer-actuacion-del-tse-partido/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/10/tse-no-puede-decir-se-suspenden-elecciones-del-pac-alejandro-martinez/>

La Tribuna reports on threats by armed men against Libre candidates.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/05/10/aspirantes-libre-reciben-amenazas/>

Finance secretary Wilfredo Cerrato announced the budget for the general elections, 1.1 billion Lempiras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/en-45-dias-finanzas-hara-desembolsos-de-presupuesto-para-elecciones-generales.html>

ConfidencialHN continues its report on the capture of the public health sector in Honduras by criminal gangs.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/10/poderosas-mafias-medicas-secuestran-el-sistema-hospitalario-de-honduras/>

The labor union Stibys in the form of its president Carlos H. Reyes clarifies its position in the confrontation with the transnational companies AB InBev and Coca Cola.

El Pulso started a three-parts interview on the labor movement in Honduras with Napoleón Acevedo Granados, a survivor of the big strike in 1954 and first president of the United Federation of Honduran Worker (FUTH). Meanwhile in the presence, the labor union Sitraterco announces that their strike by over 2000 workers in the banana sector continues until there is an adequate response by the government to their demands.

<http://elpulso.hn/aclaracion-publica-de-stibys/>

<http://elpulso.hn/historia-del-movimiento-obrero-y-popular-hondureno-parte-1-de-3/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3637-huelga-bananera-se-extender-%C3%A1-hasta-que-gobierno-intervenga-anuncia-sitraterco>

The Special Prosecutor for Children announced the arrest of the former congressman Denis Roberto Velásquez Yánez accused of human trafficking.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/10/fiscalia-la-ninez-captura-exdiputado-acusado-trata-personas-comayagua/>

ATIC announced that it is currently investigating the Autonomous Sports Federation of Honduras (Condepah) for supposed acts of corruption.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/10/investigacion-supuestos-actos-de-corrupcion-en-confederacion-deportiva-autonoma-de-honduras/>

TV host Walter Urbina was arrested on Monday night and sent to prison for the murder of another sports journalist, Arístides Soto, in 2001.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/10/capturan-y-mandan-a-la-carcel-al-periodista-deportivo-walter-urbina-por-el-crimen-de-aristides-soto/>

ENEE announced plans for a \$3 billion restructuring.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/3-mil-millones-fortalecer%20nuestro-gesti%20operativa-administrativa-y-t%20cnica-de-la-enee>

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<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3636-%20Bfcu%20es-la-gente-que-necesita-nuestro-pa%20ADS?-10-mayo-2017>

12/05/17

MACCIH; (Re)Elections; Journalists; Transparency; Tasa de Seguridad; Political Opposition; PAC; US; Labor Unions; IHSS; Astropharma; National Police; Basic Goods; Credit Cards; and Honduran Taxi Chronicles

MACCIH apparently called for an emergency meeting the civil society

organization which are part of the Coalition against Impunity to discuss the pressure by powerful groups to get rid of MACCIH.

After the reunion, the organizations stated that they support MACCIH.

The Coalition will create an observatory which will meet quarterly to discuss the actions by MACCIH and the results from them.

Edy Tabora, director of C-Libre, thinks that MACCIH is also being destabilized from inside the organization.

Criterio lists further indication of that.

And at the same time the international prosecutor at the MACCIH, Manuel Garrido, resigned from his position without offering an explanation.

The former TSE magistrate Enrique Ortez even believes that a confrontation with MACCIH could lead to the end of the reign of JOH.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/maccih-convoca-organismos-sociedad-civil-reunion-emergencia-presiones-salida/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/sociedad-civil-hondurena-respalda-la-maccih/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/desde-interior-la-maccih-se-pretende-desestabilizarla-edy-tabora-video/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/desde-mas-alto-nivel-la-oea-quieren-desestabilizar-la-maccih/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/renuncia-fiscal-internacional-la-maccih/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/11/pronostican-que-si-la-maccih-abandona-honduras-joh-se-cae/>

The presidents of PAC and Pinu presented a complaint against the TSE for violating article 240 of the Constitution at the MP. The article forbids a high official of the National Police or the Armed Forces to run for president, but the current president is also the head of the Armed Forces. A group of Honduran intellectuals presents their analysis of how the possible reelection of JOH is hurting Honduras

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-presentan-recusacion-contra-el.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/la-patria-esta-herida-la-reeleccion-la-matara/>

Journalist Luís Almendáres was intimidated by ATIC agents while covering the latter's work.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1742-agentes-de-la-atic-intimidan-a-periodista-en-comayagua>

Officials at Congress denied information to C-Libre about a new law about terrorism that was sent to Congress by the president.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/congreso-nacional-niega-informacion-sobre-proyecto-enviado-por-el-ejecutivo>

El Tiempo reports on the projects financed by the tasa de seguridad while also underlying that they haven't led to less crime.

<http://tiempo.hn/tasa-seguridad-reporta-creacion-proyectos-no-disminucion-delincuencia/>

Luis Zelaya, presidential candidate of the Liberal Party, reiterated that he will join the alliance of the political opposition only as their presidential candidate.

Xiamara Castro, Libre's candidate, challenged Luis Zelaya to support PAC and Libre in Congress in the derogation of the Secrecy Law, improvements in the Electoral Law and further changes.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/luis-zelaya-reitera-habra-alianza-solo-candidato/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/11/xiomara-castro-lanza-reto-luis-zelaya-reformar-leyes-congreso-nacional/>

As PAC currently has only internal movements belonging to one person left, after the departure of both Salvador Nasralla and Walter Banegas, it is unclear if there will even be primary elections.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2249-candidata-unica-del-pac-podria-quedarse-sin-elecciones-internas>

InSight Crime analyzes the consequences of cuts in the US' foreign spending on Central America.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/how-will-cuts-us-aid-impact-northern-triangle>

El Pulso published the second part of its history of labor and popular movements in Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/historia-del-movimiento-obrero-y-popular-hondureno-parte-2-de-3/>

Today the public oral proceeding are planned to continue in one of the cases related to the IHSS corruption case.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/este-viernes-sigue-el-juicio-oral-y-p%C3%BAblico-contra-seis-personas-por-caso-empresas-de>

Yesterday, meanwhile, the Astropharma case regarding the sale of fake drugs and fraud continued.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/11/caso-astropharma-prosigue-juicio-contra-empresario-por-venta-de-medicamentos-adulterados/>

Congress approved various articles of the new Organic Law for the National Police Force.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/aprobada-direccion-de-asuntos-comunitarios-en-nueva-ley-de-policia.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/inicia-aprobacion-la-nueva-ley-la-carrera-policial-alinear-la-institucion/>

The consumer protection organization ADECABAH denounce that the price of some 55 basic goods have risen.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/al-menos-55-productos-de-la-canasta-b%C3%A1sica-sufren-aumentos>

Congress and JOH don't see eye to eye in the reform of credit card interest rates.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1070098-466/joh-rechaza-la-rebaja-de-19-acordada-para-las-tarjetas-de-cr%C3%A9dito>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1070177-466/mauricio-oliva-asegura-que-tasa-de-inter%C3%A9s-promedio-de-las-tarjetas-de>

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<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-cronicas-de-taxi.html>

13/05/17

MACCIH; National Party; IHSS; Penal Code; Water; Public Health; Labor Unions; Penitentiary System; and a Honduran Mother's Day Gift

The controversy about MACCIH and possible pressure to block its work

from the government as well as inside the institution itself continues. A good summary about the situation comes from the journalist Sandra Marybel Sánchez...

...and from Pasos de Animal Grande.

The sociologist Pablo Carías explains why and how MACCIH has been under pressure.

But this won't lead to the disappearance of MACCIH according to the academic Víctor Meza.

Carlos Patiño, a member of Caritas, wants MACCIH to "be brave" and present the names of those people trying to destabilize them.

Foprideh's president Amanda Madrid calls to the Hondurans to take back to the streets again in support of the MACCIH.

UNAH's dean Julieta Castellanos thinks that all this shines a bad light on the OAS in general and that both the OAS as well as MACCIH failed Honduras.

And that something is not good can also be seen by the reaction by the G-16. Its current president Pierre-Christian Soccoja wrote a letter to Congress' president Mauricio Oliva expressing the G-16's preoccupation about the changes made to the Clean Politics Bill.

MACCIH's press speaker Juan Jiménez Mayor promised to rectify its errors and consolidate its independence. He, furthermore, announced the arrival of two new public prosecutors.

And even OAS' president Luis Almagro joined the conversation.

[https://www.facebook.com/notes/revolviendo-el-avispero/un-quinta-columna-en-la-maccih/217648278735794/?\\_fb\\_noscript=1](https://www.facebook.com/notes/revolviendo-el-avispero/un-quinta-columna-en-la-maccih/217648278735794/?_fb_noscript=1)

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1743-joh-usa-intereses-oscuros-internacionales-para-desmantelar-a-la-maccih>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/12/sociologo-hondureno-aunque-la-maccih-solo-haga-cosquillas-seguira-bajo-ataque/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/maccih-continuara-en-honduras-pese-a-intereses-oscuros-preve-academico-victor-meza.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/12/piden-a-maccih-valor-para-denunciar-a-los-corruptos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/12/las-antorchas-deben-encenderse-una-vez-mas-y-apoyar-la-maccih/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/12/oea-maccih-le-fallaron-honduras-julieta-castellanos/>

<http://tiempo.hn/julieta-castellanos-se-intensificaran-los-ataques-la-maccih/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/g-16-senala-que-se-trastoco-ley-de-politica-limpia-y-muestra-preocupacion.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/12/vocero-la-maccih-promete-corregir-errores/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/almagro-sale-en-respaldo-a-la-maccih-ante-inusual-ruido.html>

And if this weren't enough, Juan Jiménez Mayor also had to announce that they investigate the misuse of their logo by the National Party.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/12/jefe-de-la-maccih-investigara-por-que-aparecio-el-emblema-en-la-capacitacion-del-partido-nacional/>

A report by the MP made public during yesterday's trial says that the National Party received 1'825'000 Lempiras from fake companies participating in the IHSS corruption case. Cinthia Mariela Velásquez, accused for her involvement in the IHSS corruption case, testified during the trial that she signed off some 700 checks worth 100 million Lempiras to people enriching themselves from public money.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/12/hector-tito-guillen-secretario-general-coalianza-participaron-saqueo-al-ihss/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/10/testigo-revela-que-firmo-700-cheques-del-fraude-al-ihss-por-100-millones-de-lempiras/>

Migdonia Ayestas of the Violence Observatory also laments the government's push to lower the age for criminal convictions, calling it a process of making out of victims perpetrators. And UNICEF also reacted to the government's plans.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/12/migdonia-ayestas-las-verdaderas-victimas-son-los-menores-de-edad/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/unicef-honduras-debe-aplicar-sistema-penal-especial-menores-infractores>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/unicef-honduras-debe-aplicar-sistema-penal-especial-a-menores-infractores.html>

Radio Progreso reports on water scarcity in Tegucigalpa. According to them, more than 600'000 people lack access to water in the Honduran capital.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3641-m%C3%A1s-de-600-mil-personas-no-reciben-agua-en-la-capital-hondure%C3%B1a>

Sitramedhys, a health sector labor union, denounces that over 1000 employees haven't received their salaries and she announced that a strike is imminent.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-sitramedhys-anuncia-paro-de.html>

El Pulso published the third and final installment about the history of the Honduran labor and popular movement.

<http://elpulso.hn/historia-del-movimiento-obrero-y-popular-hondureno-parte-3-de-3/>

After two break outs from a youth detention center in the last two weeks, there was now also a prison break in Choluteca yesterday.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/12/se-escapan-dos-reos-de-la-carcel-de-choluteca-honduras-es-la-segunda-fuga-en-menos-de-un-ano/>

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<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/11/policia-militar-realizara-intensos-operativos-en-cementerios-durante-dia-de-la-madre/>

<http://tiempo.hn/militares-doblaran-seguridad-celebracion-del-dia-la-madre/>

14/05/17

Penitentiary System; Penal Code; UN; MACCIH; (Re)Elections; Journalists; and Operation Spartacus

Honduras saw the fourth prison break in two weeks, and the most recent

one on Thursday is the biggest so far. 22 or 23 members of the Mara 18 escaped from the national prison in Támara. What is worse, the prison authorities didn't seem to notice at first and the only informed the Honduran authorities yesterday. Omar Rivera, member of the purging committee of the police, denounces the behavior of the prison authorities. The director of the prison was fired as a consequence. But the problem goes deeper. 65 inmates escaped in less than two weeks.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/13/se-fugan-22-reos-la-mara-18-la-penitenciaria-nacional-tamara/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/1070775-468/el-perfil-criminal-de-los-23-pandilleros-fugados-de-la-c%C3%A1rcel-de?mainlmg=1>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/pusilanimidad-de-autoridades-penitenciarias-es-repugnante-critica-omar-rivera.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/separan-del-cargo-a-director-de-penitenciaria-de-tamara/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1070796-466/unos-65-criminales-se-han-fugado-en-menos-de-15-d%C3%ADas-de>

Security Expert Arabeska Sánchez warns not play the Honduran government's play turning attention away from the IHSS corruption case by debating about a possible reduction of the age for prosecution.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/13/experta-seguridad-aconseja-no-caer-juego-del-gobierno/>

The UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions published a report on Honduras based on a visit to Honduras in May 2016.

See Attachment

The discussion about the MACCIH continues. El Tiempo focuses in an article on the changes made to the Clean Politics Bill, how these changes made the law not applicable to this years elections and how someone from MACCIH, who met with the National Party before, approved of the changes.

<http://tiempo.hn/osman-aguilar-congreso-trastocaron-la-ley-politica-limpia-visto-bueno-miembro-la-macch/>

Two parties, the Patriotic Alliance and Vamos, announced not to form any alliance for the coming elections.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/alianza-patriotica-decide-competir-en-forma-individual-en-elecciones-generales.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/13/decide-no-unirse-al-partido-nacional/>

A new article by Pasos de Animal Grande offers a global, but very worrisome overview of the situation of Honduran journalists.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1744-precaria-situacion-de-libertad-de-expresion-para-periodistas-y-comunicadores-en-honduras>

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<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/13/30999/>

15/05/17

Journalists; Penitentiary System; (Re)Elections; and the Demise of the Atescatempa Laguna - Climate Change's Impact in Central America

The Spanish newspaper El País interview Milthon Robles, a Honduran journalist in exile in Spain due to death threats against him.

[http://elpais.com/elpais/2017/04/06/planeta\\_futuro/1491508701\\_306163.html](http://elpais.com/elpais/2017/04/06/planeta_futuro/1491508701_306163.html)

[https://www.ivoox.com/corte-audio-entrevista-milthon-robles-hondura-audios-mp3\\_rf\\_18494419\\_1.html](https://www.ivoox.com/corte-audio-entrevista-milthon-robles-hondura-audios-mp3_rf_18494419_1.html)

Last Thursday's prison break continues to make headlines. The Honduran government emitted an Interpol alert...  
...and they offer a 300'000 Lempiras reward for information about the 22 escaped inmates.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/14/conozca-los-rostros-los-22-miembros-la-mara-18-se-fugaron-tamara/>

<http://tiempo.hn/ofrecen-recompensa-300-mil-lempiras-informacion-reos-fugados-tamara/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/al-menos-74-privados-de-libertad-se-han-fugado-en-ultimo-semestre-en-honduras.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1071017-466/10-preguntas-que-quedan-sobre-la-fuga-de-los-23-reos-de>

It comes as no surprise that the Honduran Patriotic Alliance once more nominated coup-general Romeo Vásquez Velásquez as its presidential candidate.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/14/exjefe-militar-y-golpista-sera-candidato-presidencial-de-la-alianza-patriotica/>

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<http://www.prensalibre.com/ciudades/jutiapa/laguna-de-atescatempa-otra-victima-del-cambio-climatico>

16/05/17

Zacate Grande; Penitentiary System; MACCIH; (Re)Elections; OFRANEH; Femicide; Corruption; BID; National Police; and Who Is Raúl Pineda Alvarado?

The criminalization of campesinxs also continues in the south of

Honduras. Defensores en Línea report that the campesino and fisherman Julio César Canales Torres was arrested on Saturday morning for usurpation of land.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/reactivan-acusacion-contrapescador-en-el-sur/>

InSight Crime took up the wave of prison breaks in Honduras, focusing on the governments failure to "eradicate corruption among prison guards and promote necessary judicial reforms."

Both the MP's press speaker as well as the one from the National Police Force announced a series of action regarding the prison break.

Under pressure to show some reaction, the Honduran government now also fired the director of the prison in Choluteca.

And of course, JOH sees in the prison breaks a reaffirmation of his effort to strengthen the penitentiary system...

Fusina claims that five inmates have been caught in the meantime.

The commissioner of CONAPREV demands a thorough investigation, fearing that corrupt behavior played a part in the escape.

Security expert Arabeska Sánchez recommends the same thing.

Criticism also comes from Omar Rivera, who currently is responsible for purging the police.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/honduras-prisons-spotlight-65-escape-less-2-weeks>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/destituyen-a-los-directores-de-las-carceles-de-tamara-y-choluteca-por-fuga-de-peligrosos-reos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/ministerio-publico-promete-seriedad-en-investigacion-de-fuga-de-pandilleros/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/anuncian-acciones-concretas-y-un-as-de-voluntades-para-recapturar-a-pandilleros-profugos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/hernandez-asegura-que-fuga-de-mareros-obedece-al-buen-trabajo-que-las-autoridades-realizan/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/15/ahora-solo-18-los-fugados-la-penitenciaria-fusina/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/conaprev-si-no-hay-un-tunel-los-reos-se-escaparon-por-la-puerta-principal/>

<http://tiempo.hn/arabeska-sanchez-habria-que-investigar/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/depuradores-piden-reingenieria-penitenciaria-para-evitar-colusion-en-el-pozo-y-la-tolva/>

The Coalition against Impunity emitted an alert denouncing that national and international powers intend to boycott the MACCIH. Javier Suazo offers his analysis on the current situation and he laments the silence by US ambassador James D. Nealon on the subject. The sociologist Víctor Meza, meanwhile, doesn't believe that the MACCIH will leave Honduras any time soon given its international support. And for the national support, a group of congresswo/men met with MACCIH's head Juan Jiménez Mayor yesterday reaffirming their support of MACCIH's work.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1746-alerta-grupos-de-poder-nacionales-e-internacionales-pretenden-boicotear-a-la-maccih>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3645-sociedad-civil-hondure%C3%B1a-llamada-a-respaldar-trabajo-de-la-maccih-opinan-analistas>

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/185456>

<http://elpulso.hn/victor-meza-la-maccih-no-se-va-del-pais/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/diputados-hondurenos-pro-maccih-reafirman-respaldo-a-mision-anticorrupcion/>

Criterio reports that the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) isn't allowed to participate in the audit of the candidates for the special unit created by the Clean Politics Act.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/15/dejan-al-cna-veeduria-eleccion-comisionados-ley-politica-limpia/>

Miriam Miranda, the coordinator of OFRANEH, presented the difficult situation of the Garífunas to the UITA-Delegation which recently visited Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/la-realidad-del-pueblo-garifuna-en-un-pais-a-la-venta/>

UNAH's Violence Observatory reports that more than 100 women have been murdered in the first quarter of 2017, 85% of the cases aren't even investigated.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/m%C3%A1s-de-100-mujeres-fueron-asesinadas-de-manera-violenta-que-85-de-los-casos-en-la>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/seg%C3%BAAn-la-red-catracha-contra-femicidios-la-tasa-de-cr%C3%ADmenes-en-contra-de-mujeres-no-ha>

According to ConfidencialHN an audit by the TSC of ENEE shows how money was stolen from the public company by the same people responsible for

the corruption case at the IHSS.  
In the latter case, a further verdict is expected for this Friday.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/empresas-que-participaron-en-el-saqueo-del-ihss-estafaron-a-la-enee-con-software-inservible/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/el-viernes-se-conocer%C3%A1-el-fallo-por-caso-de-retenci%C3%B3n-de-isr-en-caso-del-ihss>

According to Radio HRN, loans to Honduras by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) increased by 88% to more than \$300 million.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/en-un-88-aumenta-el-financiamiento-del-bid-honduras>

Congress will take up the discussion about a new organic law for the police this week.

<http://tiempo.hn/rivera-ley-organica-la-policia-complementaria-ley-la-carrera-policial/>

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<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/el-50-de-los-politicos-hondurenos-consume-drogas-raul-pineda.html>

17/05/17

Penitentiary System; Extractive Industries; Journalists; MACCIH; ENEE; Penal Code; Drug Trafficking; Banks; Impunity; Migration; PAC; Public Health; National Police; and Stop Human Rights Violations by Transnationals

ATIC conducted investigations at both the Támara and Amarateca prison as

well as the offices of the National Penitentiary Institute.

Apparently 30 million Lempiras were found in a cell unit inside the Támara prison.

One of the inmates who had escaped was found dead in a car in Chamelecón, Cortés, with a note saying "This happens if you escape without permission".

CODEH's president Hugo Ramón Maldonado thinks that the inmates were let go on purpose as there was no tunnel, no broken walls and no use of violence. He believes that the case will be used to promote the privatization of the Honduran prison system.

The deliberation by Galel Cárdenas goes in the same direction, i.e. that they were let go on purpose.

The official version, meanwhile, is that the inmates knew about a planned transport to the new El Pozo II prison and therefore bribed the guards to let them go before that would happen.

This transport now has taken place.

El Heraldo tries to present the transport as one from prison paradise to prison hell.

Meanwhile, three inmates escaped from the youth detention center Renaciendo, one of them presumably linked to the murder of journalist Igor Padilla.

Radio Progreso makes an important contribution to the debate by directing the headlights to the role of the armed forces inside the Honduran penitentiary system.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/16/policia-judicial-se-apropia-de-documentacion-del-sistema-penitenciario/>

<http://tiempo.hn/dinero-en-carceles-hondurenas/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/15/por-fugarse-sin-permiso-asesinan-supuesto-reo-fugitivo-en-san-pedro-sula/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/16/no-hubo-tal-fuga-los-reos-los-dejaron-salir-presidente-del-codeh/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/16/fuga-reos-salida-negociada/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2256-show-la-tolva-eclipsa-peligrosa-fuga-y-gran-soborno>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/16/sorpresa-movilizacion-de-presos-para-carceles-el-pozo-y-de-moroceli/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1071555-466/en-estas-celdas-estar%C3%A1n-recluidos-los-presos-de-la-tolva-o-el>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/1071603-468/honduras-as%C3%AD-ha-cambiado-la-vida-de-los-reos-al-ser-trasladados?mainImg=1>

<http://tiempo.hn/se-fugan-tres-igor-padilla/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/se-escapan-tres-menores-de-renaciendo.html>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3646-%C2%BFincapaces-o-c%C3%B3mplices?-16-mayo-2017>

The Social Environmental Movement for Life of the South, MASS-VIDA, calls for a protest against "harmful laws that promote the uncontrolled extraction of natural resources." These laws are part of the so-called "The Hour of the South" plan.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/16/pobladores-del-sur-honduras-movilizacion-manana-del-denominado-plan-hora-del-sur/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports about the trial against a police agent who beat the journalist Dunia Montoya during a protest she covered in September 2015. The strategy of the defense was trying to denigrate her and her work as a journalist.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1747-en-audiencia-inicial-deslegitimar-la-labor-periodistica-de-dunia-montoya-fue-la-estrategia-de-la-policia>

The MACCIH will hand in its second report to the OAS today in Washington.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/16/informe-la-maccih-sera-entregado-manana-al-consejo-permanente-la-oea/>

ConfidencialHN continues exposing failures of the ENEE, this time focusing on a 20 million Lempiras error in the planning of the hydroelectric plant Patuca III.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/16/crasos-errores-de-la-enee-mala-planificacion-de-patuca-iii-costara-casi-20-mil-millones-de-lempiras/>

In a press release, the UN human rights office in Honduras expresses its preoccupation about JOH's intention to have the age for criminal convictions lowered.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/16/naciones-unidas-rechaza-revision-edad-punible-honduras/>

"A new study estimates that up to 30 percent of all deforestation in three Central American countries is due to cocaine trafficking, providing some much-needed data on the relationship between environmental damage and Latin America's drug trade."

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/drug-trafficking-destroyed-large-sections-centam-forests-report>

El Pulso started a four-parts series on the Honduran banking system between 1998 and 2003, when it suffered huge losses.

<http://elpulso.hn/crisis-bancaria-estafa-corrupcion-e-impunidad-14/>

Rodolfo Cortés Calderón writes about the situation in Quimistán, Santa Bárbara, as an example of the impunity that reigns in Honduras.

<http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/185495>

"A new report by an international humanitarian organization provides fresh statistics on the dangers that migrants from Central America's Northern Triangle face both in their home country and during their perilous trek to the United States."

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/northern-triangle-migrants-dangers>

PAC congresswoman Fátima Mena denounces that Honduras spends 20 million Lempiras for an internal election which has lost any credibility.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/16/es-penoso-que-un-pais-con-tantas-necesidades-gaste-20-millones-en-elecciones-de-mentiras/>

The University Hospital won't inform about the actions it took against employees who spoke with the media about the situation of the Honduran public health system.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/heu-niega-informacion-de-procesos-sancionatorios-contras-empleados>

So far, 500 million Lempiras has been paid to purged police agents and officials.

<http://tiempo.hn/mas-500-millones-se-ha-desembolsado-prestaciones-policias-depurados/>

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[http://www.fian.org/es/noticias/articulo/firme\\_llamamiento\\_de\\_la\\_alianza\\_ante\\_nueva\\_fase\\_de\\_negociacion\\_es./](http://www.fian.org/es/noticias/articulo/firme_llamamiento_de_la_alianza_ante_nueva_fase_de_negociacion_es/)

<http://www.treatymovement.com/>

18/05/17

Berta - Investigation; Mining; Hydroelectricity; LGTBI; Penitentiary System; Journalists; MACCIH; Political Opposition; Murder Rate; Drug Trafficking; Penal Code; Irregularities; Social Security; Extradition; Banks; and an Unequal Race

COPINH protested outside of the MP yesterday. Together with MADJ they

denounce the impunity in the case of Berta and the unwillingness by state authorities to share information with the legal team of Berta's family.

They call it "a pact of impunity" which denies them access to Berta's case files.

Criterio reports that the IACHR cited the Honduran government to present them and Berta's family the advances made in the investigation.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/05/hasta-cuando-terminara-el-abuso-e.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/familiares-denuncian-irregularidades-en-proceso-investigativo-sobre-asesinato-de-bertha-caceres.html>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/un-pacto-de-impunidad-impide-acceso-al-expediente-del-crimen-contras-bertha-caceres/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/17/cidh-convoca-al-estado-honduras-revisar-avances-la-investigacion-asesinato-bertha-caceres/>

Criterio reports that the mining concessions for Punta Piedras I and II have been canceled due to a lack of FPIC of local Garífuna communities.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/17/cancelan-concesion-proyectos-mineros-punta-piedras-i-ii/>

The protests against the hydroelectric project HIDROCEP have been successful. On Saturday the last machines were taken out of the area. More than 20 communities joined the protest and even after 57 days, they go on to assure that the company won't come back.

<https://www.facebook.com/MovAmplioHn/photos/a.901258546634712.1073741828.896060573821176/1348774765216419/?type=3>

The Honduran Committee for Diversity denounced on yesterday's International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia that there were already 15 murders of members of the LGBTI community in this year alone. In total they registered more than 280 murders since 2009, more than 90% of them remain unpunished.

In a march through Tegucigalpa they further protested against the violence and discrimination they face on a daily basis.

The UN calls out to its member states to decriminalize and to depathologize trans identities.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/diversidad-sexual-denuncia-mas-de-280-crmenes-de-odio-en-la-impunidad/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/organizaciones-sociales-se-unen-promocion-de-derechos-de-comunidad-lgtbi-en-honduras>

<http://tiempo.hn/comunidad-lgtbi-realiza-marcha-contra-la-homofobia-en-tegucigalpa/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/homosexuales-en-honduras-reclaman-igualdad-de-trato-en-dia-contra-homofobia.html>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1748-expertos-de-la-onu-llaman-a-respetar-y-protoger-a-ninas-os-es-y-adolescentes-trans-y-de-genero-diverso>

ATIC is currently investigating if there was a blackout in the Támara prison when the inmates escaped.

The transport of prisoners to the new EL Pozo II prison continued yesterday.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/17/atic-decomisa-libros-camaras-la-penitenciaria-nacional-investigar-fuga-mareros/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/continua-el-traslado-de-reos-hacia-flamante-carcel/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/1071962-468/cronolog%C3%ADa-del-traslado-de-los-reos-de-la-c%C3%A1rcel-de-el-porvenir>

A soldier threatened a group of reporters covering the transport. Dagoberto Rodríguez, the president of the Honduran Journalists' College, calls for a socialization of the protection bill for journalists.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/militares-reprimen-periodistas-hondurenos-durante-traslado-de-reos/>

<http://tiempo.hn/cph-falta-socializar-la-ley-de-proteccion-para-periodistas/>

The MACCIH presented yesterday its second report to the OAS in Washington. In it the MACCIH criticizes the changes made to the Clean Politics Law as they went against the spirit of the law (by this, it contradicts National Congresswomen who claim that the changes were minor and part of normal congressional work). It also criticizes the secrecy by the Honduran government.

Criterion calls it "a diplomatic way to call for the derogation of the Secrecy Law".

Carlos Hernández, the representative of Transparency International in Honduras, joins in the debate about the situation of the MACCIH and demands a guaranteed independence for its work. But he also seems

somehow hopeful as he thinks that the discussion between the MACCIH and Congress about the need to reform the Secrecy Law is quite advanced.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/maccih-critica-cambio-a-ley-de-politica-limpia-y-negativa-del-gobierno-a-dar-informacion-reservada/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/maccih-debe-aclarar-ante-el-pueblo-si-enfrenta-intromisiones-politicas/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/17/maccih-pide-derogacion-ley-de-secretos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/para-combatir-la-corrupcion-e-impunidad-exigen-garantizar-independencia-de-la-maccih/>

Yesterday, the political opposition met to further discuss its plans for the joint alliance. Xiomara Castro, Libre's candidate, underlines the importance of this event as it establishes the disposition of the four parties to talk and improve the chance for a strong alliance.

She goes on to say that the Liberal presidential candidate Luis Zelaya shares the opinion of the alliance in 95% of the discussed topics.

Luis Zelaya also calls the start of the dialogue "an important step".

The former TSE magnesite and Liberal politician Enrique Ortez urges the oppositional parties to see an alliance as something more than just a joint presidential candidate. According to him, there are more points that unite them.

Criterio published so-called "Democratic Approach by the Oppositional Political Alliance against the Dictatorship" which contains 17 points that are of great importance to the Alliance.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/deponer-de-una-candidatura-es-un-acto-de-mucha-nobleza/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/opositores-pujan-por-unidad-en-alianza-luis-zelaya-analizara-propuesta/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2260-apertura-al-dialogo-es-un-paso-importante-luis-zelaya>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/existen-varios-puntos-en-los-que-coincidimos-para-conformar-una-alianza-luis-zelaya.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/enrique-ortez-no-se-debe-ver-una-alianza-exclusivamente-en-la-candidatura-presidencial/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/17/conozca-documento-la-alianza-le-presento-luis-zelaya/>

<http://tiempo.hn/salario-minimo-peaje-y-la-constitucion-entre-las-propuesta-de-la-alianza-de-oposicion/>

UNAH's Violence Observatory reports that the murder rate increased by 2.8% between 2015 and 2016.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/un-increment%C3%B3-de-28-experiment%C3%B3-el-pa%C3%ADs-en-muertes-violentas-durante-el-2016>

El Pulso published an article on Costa Rica as a new hot spot for transporting drugs to the US.

<http://elpulso.hn/costa-rica-la-nueva-ruta-de-la-droga/>

EL Pulso speaks with Casa Alianza's Guadalupe Ruelas about the plan to lower the age for criminal convictions. He denounces it as an electoral instrument which has nothing to do with really improving the security of Hondurans and which makes culprits out of victims.

<http://elpulso.hn/guadalupe-ruelas-los-ninos-y-ninas-son-victimas-de-la-violencia-no-victimarios/>

Martha Alicia García steps down as the director of the National Graphic Arts Company (ENAG). She claims that she did so to concentrate on

running for councilor in Tegucigalpa for the National Party. But just a few weeks ago, El Libertador reported on various irregularities at the ENAG under her reign and may very well be that this is the main reason she resigned.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2259-funcionaria-expuesta-por-el-libertador-renuncia-a-su-cargo>

University teacher Rafael Medina speaks with El Libertador about the problems of social security in Honduras and how it negatively affects Honduran workers.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2257-poblacion-hondurena-urge-verdadera-proteccion-social>

The presumed Honduran drug trafficker Jairo Arias Mejía King Arthur is awaiting his extradition to the US.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/17/supuesto-narcotraficante-hondureno-esta-a-un-paso-de-ser-extraditado-a-ee-uu/>

El Puslo published the second installment of his four-part series on the Honduran banking crisis between 1998 and 2003. This part concentrates on the BANCORP case.

<http://elpulso.hn/bancorp-estafa-corrupcion-e-impunidad-24/>

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

19/05/17

OFRANEH; Berta - Investigation; IACHR; TSE; Journalists; MACCIH; Penitentiary System; Liberal Party; Banks; ENEE; and the South Rises

"OFRANEH rep and Garifuna leader César Geovanni Bernardez was detained

this afternoon in La Ceiba at around 4 pm. Geovanni is being charged with usurpation or illegal possession of land by Canadian businessman Patrick Forseth of CARIVIDA. OFRANEH is particularly concerned about Geovanni because he and other Garifuna youth in Santa Fe and Guadalupe were personally threatened a few days ago by the mayor of Santa Fe who has been involved in illegal sales as well. When they were threatened, the mayor made specific reference to Geovanni's "vulnerability" referring to the fact that he knew that Geovanni travels frequently to various Garifuna communities on the coast for his work with OFRANEH. The mayor has connections inside the Honduran military."

On November 10th of last year, Medeline David, a Garifuna leader in Guadalupe was detained and tortured by the police in Trujillo for the same CARIVIDA project and the same charges as Geovanni.

Direct Source

<http://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2017/2/8/one-land-defenders-story-of-repression-criminalization-and-arrest-young-garifuna-woman-arrested-for-reclaiming-ancestral-land>

The meeting of Berta's family and legal team with Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla was suspended by the latter, i.e. he just didn't show up. It is important to stress here, that the meeting was set up on the request of the IACHR (see next news item).

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/18/ministerio-publico-rehuye-a-dar-explicaciones-por-irregularidades-en-juicio-contra-asesinos-de-berta/>

The president of the IACHR, James Cavallaro, is currently in Honduras.

He expresses his preoccupation about the investigation of Berta's assassination as well as the reforms to the Penal Code.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/james-cavallaro-queremos-que-las-medidas-funcionen-queremos-que-las-personas-sean-protegidas/>

CESPAD warns that the lack of independence of the TSE is about to let loose an electoral crisis. CESPAD, therefore, demands a more independent TSE, the implementation of the Clean Politics Bill and active role for civil society to audit the TSE.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/18/falta-independencia-del-tse-punto-desatar-crisis-proceso-elecciones-honduras/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2263-autoridad-electoral-sometida-provocara-crisis-en-honduras>

C-Libre started to collect signatures for the derogation of the so-called Oscar Álvarez Bill which violates freedom of expression. The same Congress that approved this law handed out prizes for journalists yesterday. And Oscar Álvarez, who introduced the bill, tries to defend it.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/18/c-libre-recolecta-firmas-presentar-recurso-inconstitucionalidad-la-ley-mordaza/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2261-entregan-premios-parlamentarios-a-periodistas-hondurenos>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/al-articulo-335-b-solo-se-le-agrego-la-palabra-de-terrorismo-y-unos-anos-de-prision-dice-alvarez.html>

As already written twice this week, MACCIH presented its second report to the OAS. This report is now online as well as a video of its presentation.

<https://www.oas.org/documents/spa/press/Segundo-Informe-Semestral-MACCIH-.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWHmbiOFX9E>

The movement of inmates continues. 77 female gang members were transferred from San Pedro Sula to Tegucigalpa.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/18/trasladan-77-pandilleras-desde-centro-penal-de-san-pedro-sula-hasta-carcel-de-tamara/>

Just before the discussions with the Alliance of the political opposition, the Liberal Party tries to show unity in its ranks.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/18/gabriela-nunez-dialoga-con-luis-zelaya-y-cupula-liberal-para-reafirmar-unidad-partidaria/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/18/gabriela-nunez-podria-ir-diputada-las-planillas-del-partido-liberal/>

El Puslo published the third installment of his four-part series on the Honduran banking crisis between 1998 and 2003. This part concentrates on the CAPITAL case.

<http://elpulso.hn/banco-capital-estafa-corrupcion-e-impunidad-34/>

The new president of ENEE's labor union STENEE, Ángela Reyes, denounces the corruption by her predecessor Miguel Aguilar. The case is currently investigated by the TSC and MP.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/18/expresidente-del-stenee-gastaba-fondos-del-sindicato-bailarinas-vientre/>

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<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/18/sur-honduras-no-quiere-mineria-zedes-hora-del-sur/>

20/05/17

OFRANEH; Berta - Investigation; IACtHR; Corruption; MACCIH; Labor Rights; (Re)Elections; TSE; Penitentiary System; US; National Party; World Bank; Banks; and May Calls for Justice

OFRANEH emitted a press release informing about the arrest of its

representative and Garifuna leader César Geovanni Bernardez. C-Libre also emitted an alert, as Cesar Geovany Bernárdez also is a correspondent of Radio Progreso.

Furthermore, the Honduran state continues to fail to comply with a sentence by the IACtHR from October 2015. There the state was sentenced for violation the rights of the Garífuna communities in El Triunfo de La Cruz and Punta Piedra.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2017/05/19/defensor-territorial-garifuna-detenido-por-usurpacion-de-su-territorio-ancestral/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/detienen-corresponsal-de-radio-progreso>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3649-a-%C3%BAltima-hora-estado-inicia-visitas-para-cumplir-sentencia-de-la-corte-interamericana-de-derechos-humanos-corteidh>

COPINH, MADJ and CEJIL denounce the non-appearance of the MP to a meeting requested by the commissioner of the IACHR, James Cavallaro.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/05/ministerio-publico-de-honduras.html>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2267-fiscal-hondureno-planto-a-cidh-y-familia-de-bertha-caceres>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/19/cidh-pide-acelerar-investigacion-asesinato-bertha-caceres/>

COFADEH denounces that the Honduran government went on with the exhumation of Juan Humberto Sánchez against the opposition of his family. Honduras was sentenced before the IACtHR in 2003 for the disappearance and murder of him.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/ministerio-publico-profana-tumba-de-juan-humberto-sanchez/>

According to the Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), 112 public functionaries were involved in a 25 million Lempiras fraud at the Health Secretariat.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2266-112-funcionarios-senalados-de-robar-110-millones-en-salud>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/cna-podr%C3%AD-aumentar-lista-de-implicados-en-red-de-corrupci%C3%B3n-en-salud>

The MP intends to have the acquittal in favor of Mario Zelaya and Ramón Berttety in on of the IHSS sub-cases canceled. The MACCIH greets this move.

<http://tiempo.hn/ministerio-publico-anulara-sentencia-mario-zelaya-berttety/>

<http://tiempo.hn/maccih-no-apoya-sentencia-absolutoria-favor-zelaya-bertetty/>

The 17-days strike of the banana workers recently stopped as they came to an agreement with Chiquita Honduras.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3654-finaliza-huelga-bananera-en-el-valle-de-sula-clase-trabajadora-regresa-a-la-precariedad-laboral>

The former head of the Honduran Central Bank, Hugo Noé Pino, recommends to the Alliance of the political opposition to propose a reorientation of the economy, eliminating the privileges of the elites and focus on an integral development model with the communities as key actors. Ismael Moreno, director of Radio Progreso, presents four scenarios for the coming general elections. The TSE informed that they calculate with 39.39 Lempiras per vote for the General Elections. This is the amount of money the participating parties will receive.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3652-alianza-opositora-debe-proponer-un-plan-de-gobierno-para-reorientar-pol%C3%ADtica-econ%C3%B3mica-dicen-analistas>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/reportaje/item/3653-alistando-el-escenario-solo-lo-pueden-trastocar-los-%E2%80%9Ccantos%E2%80%9D-en-el-norte>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/tse-establece-en-l-39-39-el-valor-del-voto-en-las-elecciones-generales.html>

FOSDEH criticizes the high costs of the primary elections - according to them one of the highest expenses so far this year - even more when the results they produce are highly questionable.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/19/excesivo-gasto-proceso-electoral-primario-lo/>

El Heraldo reports that seven more inmates were able to escape from the youth detention center Renaciendo.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1072610-466/honduras-trasciende-otra-fuga-del-centro-de-menores-renaciendo>

The US Congress approved a resolution which supports anti-corruption efforts in the Northern Triangle.

The presidents of the Northern Triangle also hope to re-launch the discussions about the Alliance for Prosperity with the Trump administration in June.

<http://tiempo.hn/corrupcion-macch-congreso-ee-uu/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/tri%C3%A1ngulo-norte-de-ca-podr%C3%AD-relanzar-en-junio-el-plan-alianza-para-la-prosperidad>

The National Party elected Reinaldo Sánchez as its new president of the Central Committee.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/partidonacional/1072615-508/nacionalistas-designan-a-reinaldo-s%C3%A1nchez-como-nuevo-presidente-del-comit%C3%A9-central-del>

The World Bank approved a \$25 million loan for the development of the Honduran rural sector.

<http://tiempo.hn/banco-mundial-prestamo-millonario/>

El Pulso published its fourth and final installment of the Honduran banking crisis between 1998 and 2003.

<http://elpulso.hn/banhcreser-estafa-corrupcion-e-impunidad-44/>

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<http://defensoresenlinea.com/mayo-exige-justicia/>

21/05/17

Political Opposition; APP; MACCIH; Military Police; Penitentiary System; and the Eternal Return of the Caudillo

The Alliance of the political opposition will hold its general assembly

today.

Criterio reports that the Liberal presidential candidate Luis Zelaya won't participate after all.

And Proceso Digital cites Libre congressman Rasel Tomé who claims that Salvador Nasralla will be the candidate of the Alliance.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2017/05/20/la-alianza-oposicion-listo-asamblea-general/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/20/luis-zelaya-le-dice-rotundamente-no-la-alianza/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/nasralla-sera-el-candidato-presidencial-de-la-alianza-de-oposicion-rasel-tome.html>

Honduran NGOs participated at a forum in Santa Rosa de Copán to find out more about the Alliance for Prosperity and how to monitor its implementation.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/20/31263/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/sociedad-civil-vigilara-implementacion-del-plan-alianza-para-la-prosperidad.html>

Omar Rivera, member of the purging committee and director of the Alliance for Peace and Justice, reminds the MACCIH about its mandate.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/maccih-vino-fortalecer-capacidades-de-los-operadores-de-justicia-y-no-confrontarse>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/miembros-de-la-maccih-deben-concentrarse-en-cumplir-su-mandato-omar-rivera.html>

El Tiempo reports on a "ruthless" eviction of mango sellers by the Military Police close to the Palmerola airbase.

<http://tiempo.hn/militares-desalojaron-vendedores/>

Criterio has some more details on the latest prison escape on Friday, wondering if there is a strategy or a complete failure by the Honduran authorities to control its prisons.

Meanwhile, more inmates have been transferred to El Pozo II.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/20/continua-estrategia-ingobernabilidad-se-fugan-7-menores-la-mara-18/>

<http://tiempo.hn/del-centro-penal-la-paz-trasladan-nueve-reos-la-tolva/>

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<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/20/changel-eterno-retorno-del-caudillo/>

22/05/17

Political Opposition; National Party; UD; PAC; Penitentiary System; and the Corrupt and the Corruptors

The Alliance of the political opposition chose Salvador Nasralla as his

presidential candidate.

At the same time, the Alliance got new support, this time from Carlos Orbín Montoya, pre-candidate at the Liberal Party who lost to Luis Zelaya. He called out to the Liberal voters to join the Alliance.

And the so-called 19th Department, i.e. Hondurans living in the US and Canada, also spoke out in support of the Alliance.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/21/salvador-nasralla-candidato-presidencial-la-alianza-opositora/>

<http://tiempo.hn/salvador-nasralla-encabezara-alianza/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/21/las-bases-se-vengan-la-alianza-dejen-solo-ese-cascaron-carlos-montoya-partido-liberal/>

<http://tiempo.hn/departamento-19-se-une-la-alianza-oposicion-pide-mayor-inclusion/>

At the National Party, meanwhile, JOH tried to portray his candidature as a stance against those who created "the crisis of 2009" - an interesting spin on history.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/21/quienes-quieren-sacarme-los-crearon-las-crisis-del-2009-joh/>

The Democratic Unification Party (UD), announced that it won't form an alliance with the National Party.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/21/ud-decide-no-alianza-partido-nacional-lanza-candidato/>

And Luis Chávez summarizes best, what happened at the primary election of the PAC.

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

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/el-pac-esta-practicamente-desaparecido-jaime-villegas.html>

Omar Rivera, member of the purging committee, now speaks of the need for international technical assistance to improve prison governance.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/con-asistencia-tecnica-internacional-se-mejoraria-gestion-penitenciaria-omar-rivera.html>

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<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/21/de-corruptos-y-corruptores/>

23/05/17

ZEDes; Criminalization; Education; Journalists; Corruption; Poverty; APP; Labor Unions; Political Opposition; PAC; Transport Sector; Homicide Rate; and Where are You Roger?

ConexiHon denounces a wave of privatizations at the Amapala beach linked with the planned ZEDE there.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/las-zedes-han-recrudecido-el-conflicto-por-tierras-en-amapala>

Also in Honduras south, in Choluteca, two members of ADEPZA - fishermen from Zacate Grande - were found guilty for usurpation by a court in late April. Tomorrow the court will decide the individual penalty for the two men. According to COFADEH, they could be sentenced for up to 5 years in prison.

Tomorrow another trial will take place in Tegucigalpa, were two defenders of public education also face charges for usurpation based on a protest at the UNAH in 2015.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/tribunal-de-sentencia-condena-a-pescadores-de-zacate-grande/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/defensores-de-la-educacion-a-juicio-oral-y-publico/>

Regarding public education, Radio Progreso reports on the intention of privatizing education in Honduras.

C-Libre denounces the stigmatization by UNAH authorities of students demanding their rights.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/item/3655-plan-del-sector-educaci%C3%B3n-para-qu%C3%A9>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/estudiantes-universitarias-fueron-estigmatizados-por-reclamar-derechos>

Ricardo Patiño, journalist and director of "Televisión Edición Estelar", denounces threats on social media and a physical attack by the Liberal councilor Francois Ligeard.

Journalist and Libre congressman Bartolo Antonio Fuentes was accused of defamation by Hilario Espinoza, the secretary general of the Honduran Workers Confederation (CTH). Fuentes criticized the silence of some labor union leaders regarding JOH's reelection bid.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodista-denuncia-agresi%C3%B3n-y-amenazas>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/querellan-periodista-y-diputado-bartolo-antonio-fuentes>

The Honduran chapter of Transparency International demands an investigation of the vice-minister of health, Francis Contreras, for corruption.

<http://tiempo.hn/transparencia-internacional-pide-investigar-al-vice-ministro-salud/>

El Tiempo reports that only 38% of Hondurans earn enough to afford basic goods. According to the consumer protection organization Adecabah, the price of the basic goods basket rose by 300 Lempiras this year.

<http://tiempo.hn/canasta-basica-honduras-al-alcance-solo-del-38-ciento-la-poblacion/>

A new meeting to relaunch the Alliance for Prosperity is planned for July in Washington.

Ciprodeh, meanwhile, warns the Honduran authorities to misuse the funds,

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/22/junio-triangulo-norte-ca-relanzara-plan-alianza-la-prosperidad/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/participacion-de-principales-actores-en-ejecucion-de-fondos-del-plan-alianza-recomienda-ciprodeh.html>

According to El Libertador, the labor union of the Central Bank of Honduras (BCH), SITRABANTRAL, is about to win a court case against the BCH.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2269-trabajadores-cerca-de-ganar-14-millones-al-banco-central>

The Opposition Alliance completed its presidential ballot yesterday.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/22/alianza-opositora-completa-planilla-designados/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3656-alianza-opositora-proclama-como-candidato-a-la-presidencia-a-salvador-nasralla>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2270-nasralla-derrotaremos-a-la-dictadura>

El Pulso interviewed Marlene Alvarenga, who ran as the only candidate in PAC's primary elections last Sunday.

<http://elpulso.hn/marlene-triunfo-pac/>

The bus drivers from Santa Ana y Ojojona won't take up their work for the time being. Last Friday they announced that they would stop driving their buses due to ongoing extortion by Maras. Some of the drivers pay extortion money to three different Maras.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/22/transporte-santa-ana-ojojona-paralizado-desde-pasado-viernes/>

While Honduras saw a rise in the number of homicides between 2015 and 2016, now the police claims that the homicide rate dropped by no less than 18% between the first four months of 2017 and 2016...

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/policia-destaca-reduccion-del-18-en-homicidios-en-primeros-cuatro-meses-de-2017.html>

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<http://defensoresenlinea.com/donde-estas-roger/>

24/05/17

Berta - Trial, EU; UN; Lencas; Penal Code; Indigenous Peoples; Military Police; MACCIH; Political Opposition; PAC; National Party; (Re)Elections; Privatization; Penitentiary System; Councilors; and Identity Cards for Inmates

The hearing in the case of Berta has been postponed to June 7. COPINH's

legal representatives made the request due to the fact that they only received the necessary information by the MP to participate in the hearing on Tuesday afternoon - half a day before the hearing was planned to take place. Now they have less than two weeks, which is still too short a time, to analyze all the evidence that the public prosecutor wants to present at the hearing.

Information by COPINH

Berta's family thanked EU ambassador Ketil Karlsen for his support in the investigation and trial of Berta's assassination.

<http://www.proceso.hn/salud-y-sociedad/5-salud-y-sociedad/familiares-de-berta-caceres-reconocen-apoyo-de-embajador-de-la-union-europea.html>

El Pulso published a portrait of María Soledad Pazo, the representative of the UN human rights office in Honduras, her commitment to human rights and the costs that come with it.

<http://elpulso.hn/maria-soledad-pazo-se-sabe-todo-porque-nos-monitorean/>

Defensores en Línea continues to report on the situation of the indigenous Lencas communities in Santa María la Paz and San Pedro de Tutule. They recently warned about a decision by the Honduran state which would hand over land and natural resources to the municipalities, which then would, or already do, sell them off to national and international companies.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/decisiones-arbitrarias-cercenan-territorios-ancestrales-en-la-paz/>

José Guadalupe Ruelas, director of Casa Alianza, wrote an open letter to the president of the Judicial Power opposing the intentions to lower the punishable age.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/23/casa-alianza-se-niega-participar-reuniones-la-csj-la-edad-punible/>

CONAMINH invited for the second encounter of Pech, Tolupán, Garífuna, Lenca, Misquita and Maya-Chorti women, which took place yesterday in Tegucigalpa.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/23/mujeres-indigenas-negras-honduras-celebran-segundo-encuentro-tegucigalpa/>

Four members of the Military Police face trial this Friday for various

crimes.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/el-viernes-iniciar%C3%A1-juicio-oral-y-p%C3%BAblico-contra-cuatro-polic%C3%AD-militares-por-varios-delitos>

The MACCIH met with congresswo/men and the purging committee to discuss the new Police Career Bill.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/en-reunion-con-diputados-y-depuradores-maccih-propone-mejoras-a-ley-de-carrera-policia.html>

Tomás Andino Mencía tries to answer the question if the Opposition Alliance is a real alternative for Honduras by answering three sub-questions. El Pulso published the first and second answer. the third will probably follow tomorrow. In a further article, El Puso describes how Salvador Nasralla came to be the presidential candidate of the Oppositon Alliance.

<http://elpulso.hn/alianza-alternativa/>

<http://elpulso.hn/alianza-alternativa2/>

<http://elpulso.hn/el-candidato-nasralla/>

The new PAC president Marlene Alvarenga is accused of having used names without authorization to fill the PAC ballots.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/23/denuncian-marlene-alvarenga-usar-nombres-sin-autorizacion-llenar-planillas/>

<http://tiempo.hn/denuncian-marlene-alvarenga-irregularidades-planillas-electorales/>

EL Pulso analyzes the rhetoric of the National Party at its convention last weekend.

<http://elpulso.hn/la-retorica-del-cambio-o-la-convencion-nacionalista-2017/>

The civil society watch group Observation N-26 met with the TSE to discuss the coming electoral process. CONADEH announced that it will participate as an active observer. The EU, meanwhile, has still not decided if they will send a electoral observation mission to Honduras. Tomorrow, the TSE will officially invite over 6 million Hondurans to participate in the General Elections.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/23/observacion-n-26-se-reune-tse-monitorear-observar-las-elecciones-este-ano/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/conadeh-realizara-observacion-electoral-activa-en-elecciones-generales.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/23/union-europea-aun-no-decide-enviara-no-mision-observacion-electoral/>

<http://tiempo.hn/mas-de-seis-millones-de-hondurenos-seran-convocados-este-25-de-mayo-a-elecciones-generales/>

The president of ENNE's labor union STENEE, Ángela Reyes, claims that public lighting is about to be privatized.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/23/alumbrado-publico-sera-privatizado-honduras-presidenta-del-stenee/>

In a fire inside cells of the youth detention center Renaciendo at least two inmates resulted badly burnt and had to be brought to the hospital.

<http://tiempo.hn/se-reportan-jovenes-quemados-en-el-centro-de-menores-renaciendo/>

Faustino Murillo, a local councilor in Iriona, Colón, was murdered yesterday. He was a member of the Environmental Board of Sico Paulaya and a primary teacher.

<http://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1073650-410/regidor-maestro-iriona-colon-cr%C3%ADmenes-honduras>

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<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/m%C3%A1s-de-18-mil-privados-de-libertad-se-someter%C3%A1n-proceso-de-identificaci%C3%B3n>

25/05/17

Ahuas; Berta - Trial; Forensic Medicine, IHSS; (Re)Elections; Political Opposition; Criminalization; Indigenous Peoples; IACHR; Trans-450; Spying; National Police; Penal Code; and to Vote or to Elect

"A new report from the Offices of Inspector General (OIG) of the US

Department of Justice (DOJ) and the US State Department finds that US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) agents were in operational control in a notorious incident in Ahuas, Honduras in May 2012 in which four Miskitu villagers were killed and three others severely wounded. The findings contradict previous claims by DEA officials that its agents played only a "supportive" role in the incident, that "DEA agents did not fire a single round," and that "the conduct of DEA personnel was consistent with current DEA protocols, policies and procedures.""  
The New York Times also reports on these new revelations.  
And so have all Honduran media outlets.

<http://cepr.net/press-center/press-releases/dea-agents-oversaw-notorious-2012-deadly-force-incident-in-ahuas-honduras-us-government-report-concludes>

[https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/24/us/politics/dea-honduras-drugs.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/24/us/politics/dea-honduras-drugs.html?_r=0)

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1074038-466/dea-minti%C3%B3-sobre-operaci%C3%B3n-antidrogas-en-honduras-seg%C3%BAn-informe->

<http://tiempo.hn/miembros-de-la-dea-misquitos/>

Amnesty International calls out to the Honduran authorities to grant access to the evidence being presented by them during the hearing to the legal representative of Berta's family and COPINH.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-continua-en-riesgo-la-justicia-en-el-caso-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

An investigation by ConfidencialHN reveals a list of irregularities linked to the director for Forensic Medicine, Julissa Villanueva.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/24/jefa-forense-abusa-de-autoridad-al-filtrar-a-un-diario-datos-privados-de-peligrosos-reos/>

The MACCIH and the MP opened a new line of investigation, called "Credit Lines", into the IHSS corruption case.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/maccih-y-mp-abren-investigacion-46-ihss-lineas-de-credito.html>

There are new signs, that the implementation of the Clean Politics Act is actively being sabotaged. PINU congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez denounces that the election of the three commissioners for the Clean Politics Unit is constantly being postponed, even though they should have been elected by today to take up their role for the general elections.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/se-dilata-proceso-de-seleccion-de-magistrados-de-unidad-de-politica-limpia.html>

Xiomara Castro says that the Opposition Alliance offered the Liberal presidential candidate Luis Zelaya the front runner position, but that he denied.

He now denies denying, claiming that he was never offered this position. According to him, he didn't want to join the Alliance because Salvador Nasralla was already chosen as its candidate and because he opposes the idea of a constitutional assembly.

The former presidential candidate for the Liberal Party, Mauricio Villeda, even claims that it was inconceivable that they would join the Alliance.

El Pulso published the third part of Tomás Andino Mencía's question-driven approach to the Alliance.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/a-luis-zelaya-se-le-ofrecio-encabezar-la-alianza-revela-xiomara-castro.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/24/a-luis-zelaya-se-le-ofrecio-la-candidatura-de-alianza-opositora-y-la-rechazo-xiomara-castro/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/partidoliberal/1074098-508/luis-zelaya-asegura-que-nunca-se-le-ofreci%C3%B3-candidatura-de-la-alianza>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/no-integre-alianza-porque-nasralla-era-el-candidato-ademas-no-estoy-de-acuerdo-con-constituyente-zelaya.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/era-ridiculo-inaceptable-y-hasta-impolitico-que-el-pl-aceptara-unirse-a-alianza-villeda.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/la-alianza-alternativa-real-o-ficticia-33/>

Yesterday, three students faced charges for usurpation in a trial in Tegucigalpa. Back in 2015 they participated in protests defending their right to an education.

MADJ condemns the attempt of criminalization by the UNAH authorities. Students protested in solidarity with the accused.

And as so many times before in Honduras, the hearing was suspended on the same day it should have taken place.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1751-prueba-de-fuego-para-la-unah-tres-estudiantes-a-juicio-oral-y-publico-mientras-autoridades-barajan-cerrar-expediente>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/24/madj-condena-criminalizacion-la-defensa-la-educacion-publica-solidariza-estudiantes-enjuiciados/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/24/estudiantes-la-unah-se-toman-edificios-protesta-criminalizacion-companeros/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/24/suspenden-juicio-estudiantes-universitarios/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/ausencia-de-la-procuraduria-da-largas-a-juicio-que-criminaliza-a-universitarios/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the three-days gathering of indigenous women in Tegucigalpa which ends today.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1749-honduras-mujeres-indigenas-y-negras-se-reunen-para-defender-sus-bienes-comunes-territorios-y-cultura>

The IACHR decided to create three new units, one for the rights of people with disabilities, one regarding memory, truth and justice, and one for the rights of elderly people.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/cidh-crea-nuevas-unidades-y-anuncia-nueva-distribucion-de-relatorias/>

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) let Honduras know that the

municipality of the central district (AMDC) has to start pay back the loan for the Trans-450 infrastructure project this year.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/amdc-debe-empezar-a-pagar-900-mil-del-prestamo-del-trans450-en-2018.html>

A new Economist article on hacking and human rights in the Middle East could also be relevant for Honduras.

<http://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21722204-phishing-dissidents-how-governments-middle-east-snoop-human-rights>

ATIC arrested two former members of the police force accused of murdering three persons.

<http://tiempo.hn/caen-ex-policias-robo-rastra-muerte-tres-guatemaltecos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/24/capturan-dos-expolicias-vinculados-en-masacre-de-tres-guatemaltecos/>

In a press release, UNAH opposes the reduction of the punishable age. Casa Alianza summarizes the attempt the following way: "In Honduras you get punished for being young and poor."

<http://tiempo.hn/unah-reducir-edad-punible-error/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3658-%E2%80%99Cen-honduras-se-condena-ser-joven-y-pobre%E2%80%9D-dice-director-de-casa-alianza>

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<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3659-%C2%BFvotamos-o-elegimos?-24-mayo-2017>

26/05/17

Journalists; Students' Protest; (Re)Elections; MACCIH; G-16; US; and a New Central American Alliance Against Mining

Journalist Rony Huete was hit by UNAH's private security guard and later

arrested by the police while covering a student protest in solidarity with three students facing trial for usurpation (see yesterday).

As a manifestation of journalists' fate in Honduras, it was fitting that the attack and arrest of Huete took place on the Day of the Journalist. Radio Progreso summarizes the situation of their profession as follows: "insecurity, job insecurity, censorship, selling-out and misconduct."

Omar Rivera asked for better working conditions for journalists and the derogation of Article 335B of the Penal Code.

This was also the request by the president of the Hondurans Journalists' College (CPH), Dagoberto Rodríguez. Let's just say, that Congress' president Mauricio Oliva wasn't moved by the request...

In a public forum on the new Penal Code, national and international experts agreed that there is no place for libel and slander in the Penal Code, as they are incompatible with international standards.

Another common topic was the violence journalists face on a daily basis. C-Libre's president Edy Tabora denounces an unwillingness by the MP to investigate and bring to trial assassinations of journalists.

JOH promised a new ministry for human rights which will take on the crimes against journalists.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/25/supuestos-agentes-de-seguridad-privada-de-la-unah-agreden-y-asaltan-a-periodista-hondureno/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodista-hondure%C3%B1o-es-detenido-el-d%C3%ADa-del-periodista>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3661-el-periodismo-no-dice-la-verdad-a-los-hondure%C3%B1os-aceptan-periodistas>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/25/periodistas-deben-fiscalizar-los-gobiernan/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/25/asi-ve-el-presidente-del-parlamento-hondureno-la-libertad-de-expresion/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-calumnia-y-la-injuria-no-deben-estar-tipificado-en-el-codigo-penal/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/salud-y-sociedad/5-salud-y-sociedad/periodistas-hondurenos-urgen-derogar-articulo-335-b-y-fin-a-impunidad.html>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/periodistas-en-el-marco-de-su-celebraci%C3%B3n-realizan-protestas-en-el-pa%C3%ADs>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/una-veintena-de-comunicadores-y-periodistas-acogidos-a-proteccion.html>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/c-libre-investigaci%C3%B3n-y-judicializaci%C3%B3n-de-asesinatos-periodistas-est%C3%A1n-est%C3%A1ticas-en-el-mp>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/investigacion-de-crmenes-contra-periodistas-pasa-a-una-instancia-superior-anuncia-herandez.html>

The aforementioned protest, in which journalist Rony Huete was arrested, lead also to the arrest of at least 20 students.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/20-estudiantes-detenido-en-desalojo-de-toma-de-edificio>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/al-menos-21-estudiantes-detenido-en-zafarrancho-en-la-unah.html>

The TSE has signed an agreement with the civil society coalition Observation-N26 allowing the latter to conduct a long-term observation of the general elections, i.e. from the call for the election to the announcement of its winner.

And they have their work cut out for them. As Honduras Culture and Politics shows, there are more than 1 million registered voters "that simply cannot not exist."

The call for the elections took place yesterday, when the TSE invited Hondurans to participate in the general elections on November 26, electing one president, 128 congresswo/men, 20 parliamentarians for the Central American Parliament (Parlacen), 298 mayors and local councilors. The Opposition Alliance officially inscribed Salvador Nasralla as its candidate.

<http://elpulso.hn/observacion-n26-acompanara-las-elecciones-generales/>

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2017/05/innumerecy-in-tribunal-supremo-electoral.html>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/25/31466/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/25/alianza-opositora-inscribe-a-salvador-nasralla-como-candidato-a-la-presidencia-de-honduras/>

The MACCIH asks for patience to give them time to prepare the presentation of high-impact cases.

It also hopes that a bill allowing for remunerating collaboration will make their work more efficient, mentioning Guatemala and Brazil as two examples.

El Pulso wonders what would happen with the MACCIH if the Opposition Alliance were to win the presidency. One of its promises is to open the way for an International Commission against Impunity in Honduras (CICIH).

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/25/jefe-de-mision-anticorrupcion-solicita-tiempo-para-presentar-casos-de-impacto/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/en-casos-odebrecht-y-la-linea-funciono-la-ley-de-colaboracion-eficaz-dice-jimenez-mayor.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/sobrevivira-la-maccih-al-posible-triunfo-de-la-alianza/>

The president of the G-16, French ambassador Pierre-Christian Soccoja, told Radio HRN that Honduras has to improve in matters of violence, impunity and corruption.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/honduras-tiene-que-mejorar-en-materia-de-violencia-pierre>

JOH thanked US ambassador James D. Nealon for his work in Honduras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/gobierno-hondureno-condecora-a-embajador-nealon.html>

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<http://nacla.org/news/2017/05/25/new-central-american-alliance-against-mining>

27/05/17

Ahuas; Private Security; MACCIH; Workers' Rights; Drug Trafficking; Forced Disappearance; Corruption; Mayors; Domestic Violence; National Party; OAS; Freedom of Expression...but not here

Family members of those murdered in the Ahuas massacre demand that the

investigation is reopened.

<https://nicaraguaymasespanol.blogspot.ch/2017/05/honduras-las-victimas-de-ahuas-aun.html>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-cofadeh-saco-a-luz-la-verdad-sobre-ahuas-que-la-dea-no-pudo-ocultar/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/eeuu-mintio-a-las-victimas-y-nos-mintio-a-todos/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the the repression by private security forces against students at the UNAH. The article writes of a terror regime, which gets support by the National Police Force and the TIGRES special force.

Yesterday the criminalizing trial against three students, Cesario Padilla, Moisés Cáceres and Sergio Ulloa, took place.

At the same time, the 21 students arrested a day before, in a solidarity protest with them, all received alternatives measures to imprisonment, i.e. they have to sign a sheet every Friday at the court, they aren't allowed to leave the country and they aren't allowed to approach UNAH's administrative building.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1752-tigres-espaa-y-policia-nacional-establecieron-el-terror-en-la-unah>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1753-estudiantes-se-enfrentaran-en-juicio-oral-y-publico-a-la-rabia-de-la-rectora>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/26/los-21-estudiantes-la-unah-reciben-medidas-sustitutivas/>

Jader Adony Mencía Armijo, a 21-year old police agents responsible for the protection of the MACCIH's coordinator Juan Jiménez Mayor, was found dead. The MACCIH claims that it was a suicide.

ATIC announced an investigation.

The MACCIH also informed the public yesterday that two new international prosecutors will join their team in the coming weeks.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/26/aparente-suicidio-muere-policia-asignado-la-maccih/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/atic-investiga-supuesto-suicidio-de-guarda-espalda-asignado-vocero-de-la-maccih>

<http://tiempo.hn/la-maccih-tendra-dos-nuevos-fiscales-internacionales/>

After a public campaign in favor of fired workers at Delta, the company reinstated them, but under conditions that violate Honduran law.

See Attachment

InSight Crime reports that "Authorities have located coca plantations in Honduras, a sign that the Central American nation could be evolving from its traditional role as a transportation corridor to one that is also a drug producer."

The federal court in New York is expected to announce its verdict on June 20 in the case against Fabio Lobo, son of former Honduran president Pepe Lobo.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/coca-plantation-experiment-in-honduras-raises-eyebrows>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/26/sentencia-contrahondureno-fabio-lobo-sera-leida-el-proximo-20-de-julio-en-nueva-york/>

COFADEH commemorates the International Week of Forced Disappearance.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-impunidad-no-permite-olvidar-semana-internacional-del-detenido-desaparecido/>

As part of its Operation Firestorm, the MP continues to search public institutions for proof of corruption.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/26/ministerio-publico-confisca-documentacion-en-distintas-oficinas-gubernamentales/>

One institution facing corruption charges is the Social Security Institute for Journalists (IPP). The president of the Honduran Journalists' Chamber (CPH), who also presides the board of the IPP, opposes an audit by the National Banks and Securities Commission (CNBS).

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/26/presidente-del-cph-no-quiere-la-comision-bancos-audite-ipp/>

The municipality of Lempira denied its inhabitants access to public information regarding spending on social projects. Community leader and social communicator Francisco Gámez told C-Libre that they have filed a complaint at the Institute for Access to Public Information.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/corporacion-municipal-de-lempira-renuente-entregar-informacion-publica>

The Operation Firestorm also targets domestic violence and 19 men were arrested.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/26/fiscalia-la-mujer-detiene-19-agresores-mujeres/>

The dispute inside the National Party between JOH and Ricardo Álvarez reappeared.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/26/ricardo-alvarez-esta-incomodo-porque-sus-colaboradores-no-fueron-nombrados-en-la-cupula-nacionalista/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/26/presidente-del-partido-nacional-dice-que-ignoraran-ataques-de-oposicion-no-escucho-reclamos-de-vicepresidente/>

El Pulso published a short history of the OAS.

<http://elpulso.hn/breve-historia-de-la-oea/>

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

28/05/17

UNAH; MACCIH; (Re)Elections; Penitentiary System; and Human Security, Not Militarization

Criterio denounces that UNAH's dean Julieta Castellanos makes fun of the

three students facing trial for usurpation.

Meanwhile, Pasos de Animal Grande continues to report on the trial against the 20 students and one journalist arrested on Thursday. Carlo Jiménez, a lawyer from C-Libre representing them, denounced an irregularity in due diligence and another lawyer, Mario Rojas, speaks of a misuse of criminal law.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/27/rectora-la-unah-se-burla-estudiantes-judicializados/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1754-20-estudiantes-de-la-unah-y-un-periodista-estuvieron-ante-el-juez-con-grilletes-en-pies-y-manos>

The forensic department of the MP will officially communicate the cause of death of the 21-year old Jader Adonis Mencía Armijo on Monday. He served as a police agent and was responsible for the protection of the MACCIH's coordinator Juan Jiménez Mayor. In a press release, the MACCIH communicated that he took his own life.

<http://tiempo.hn/siguiente-semana-revelan-guardaespaldas-la-maccih-se-suicidio/>

For the coming election of three representatives for the Clean Politics Unit, the Observation Coalition N-26 demands from Congress to not repeat its previous errors when electing representatives for important positions, i.e. lack of transparency, back room dealing,...

The Liberal Party requests the creation of a Technical Advisory Board according to the Electoral Law.

Radio Progreso sees one of the big challenge of Honduran elections in general to go from a perspective of seeing the Honduran people only as a mass of voters to one in which they are individually recognized as citizens with rights and duties.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/coalicion-observacion-n-26-pide-al-cn-no-repetir-viejos-vicios-en-eleccion-magistrados-unidad-fiscalizadora.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/partido-liberal-consejo-tecnico/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/3667-ciudadanos-antes-que-masas-de-votantes-27-mayo-2017>

El Tiempo reports on a riot in the new El Pozo II prison.

El Herald writes of "desperate cries" coming from the prison. And an interesting side-note: El Tiempo calls El Pozo II a maximum security prison, while El Herald writes of a medium security prison.

<http://tiempo.hn/posible-amotinamiento-la-carcel-maxima-seguridad-pozo-ii/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1074906-466/gritos-de-desesperaci%C3%B3n-y-protesta-de-reos-en-la-tolva-el-pozo>

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<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2278-casa-alianza-honduras-recomienda-estrategia-de-seguridad-humana>

29/05/17

Tragedy; Penitentiary Systems; JOH; and How Honduras Became the Banana Republic

Yesterday afternoon, four people lost their lives and more than 20 were

hurt when too many people tried to get in the National Stadium in Tegucigalpa for the soccer final.

The Security Secretariat claims that too many tickets were sold on the black market.

And they also recommended to the clubs not to cancel the game.

ConfidencialHN, meanwhile, also blames the police for its disproportionate use of force.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/28/cuatro-muertos-25-heridos-dejaria-tragedia-estadio-nacional/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/28/policia-atribuye-hechos-del-estadio-sobreventa-boletos/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/deportes/1075222-410/seguridad-recomend%C3%B3-no-cancelar-la-gran-final-porque-el-estadio-ya-estaba>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/28/brutalidad-policial-deja-dos-muertos-y-varios-heridos-en-estadio-nacional-de-tegucigalpa/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/fotogalerias/1075169-411/las-fotos-de-la-tragedia-previo-a-la-gran-final-que-dej%C3%B3?i=6>

Honduras Culture and Politics also dedicates a post to a worrisome peculiarity of the Honduran penitentiary system: "Honduran Prisoner Leaves Prison; No One Cares".

The riot at the newly constructed El Pozo II prison left quite some damage and the inmates had to be transferred to another prison.

ATIC announced started an investigation.

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2017/05/honduran-prisoner-leaves-prison-no-one.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/pandilleros-de-la-18-provocan-destrozos-en-la-tolva.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/atic-inspecciona-el-centro-penal-la-tolva.html>

ConfidencialHN reports that journalists were sent away from a gathering of the National Party in La Esperanza as it became evident that not a lot of supporters of JOH would show up.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/28/frustracion-joh-molesto-por-inasistencia-de-activistas-a-concentracion-y-corre-a-periodistas/>

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<http://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-39693332>

30/05/17

Armed Forces; Tragedy; Garífunas; Ahuas; UNAH; Forensic Medicine; Penitentiary System; Extortion; Political Opposition; Penal Code; Public Health; Mayors; Public Debt; and Ottawa and Empire

ConfidencialHN reports on an encounter between JOH and the upper echelon

of the Armed Forces. JOH wanted to use money coming from the social security institute of the Armed Forces to build his Civic Government Center.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/29/militares-frenan-abusos-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-porque-queria-tocar-fondos-de-ffaa/>

The soccer team Club Deportivo Motagua claims one day after the tragedy

that they had informed the police beforehand about the sale of fake tickets but their warning was ignored.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/28/motagua-alerto-la-policia-la-venta-boletos-falsos/>

<http://tiempo.hn/periodista-espanol-culpa-la-policia-las-muertes-estadio-nacional/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2279-tragedia-en-el-nacional-exhibe-pesima-organizacion-del-campeon-motagua>

Radio Progreso published a new article on the ongoing struggle of the Garífuna community Guadalupe en Santa Fe against a Canadian businessman Patrick Forseth - or, as a representative of OFRANEH says, against the Canadian mafia.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/3668-%E2%80%99Chay-una-mafia-canadiense-que-se-ha-apoderado-de-nuestra-tierra%E2%80%9D>

InSight Crime asks what the US DEA may learn from its debacle in Honduras.

<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/what-dea-can-learn-from-honduras-debacle>

Pasos de Animal Grande denounces that UNAH's own digital newspaper plays along in criminalizing protesting students.

Albany Flores looks at previous reforms at UNAH and then focuses on the current fourth reform with started in 2008 and has caused students' unrest ever since.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/especiales/protesta-social-unah/item/1756-periodico-digital-presencia-universitaria-de-la-unah-trastoco-video-para-recriminalizar-a-estudiantes>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/especiales/protesta-social-unah/item/1755-tribunal-dictara-sentencia-el-07-de-junio-en-el-caso-de-tres-estudiantes-de-la-unah-con-proceso-de-2015>

<http://elpulso.hn/unah-iv-reforma-y-estudiantado/>

ConfidencialHN reports on further irregularities regarding forensic medicine in Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/29/subjefe-de-medicina-forense-fue-reparado-con-393-mil-lempiras-por-no-cumplir-con-sus-tres-trabajos/>

JOH declared the security forces' reaction to the riots in his self-proclaimed maximum security prison El Pozo II a success. Wilfredo Méndez, director of Ciprodeh, denounces that JOH is diverting attention from his government's failure in improving the security of Hondurans by focusing on prisons.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/29/hernandez-se-congratula-por-prueba-de-fuego-en-flamante-carcel-y-revela-destrozos-que-hubo-en-el-pozo/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/la-tolva-paso-su-primera-prueba-de-fuego-como-carcel-de-maxima-seguridad-hernandez.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/29/joh-intenta-ocultar-el-fracaso-en-seguridad-con-el-tema-carcelario-wilfredo-mendez/>

ConexiHon reports on a protest outside of the criminal court in Tegucigalpa last Friday. Workers of the transport sector and family members protested against the arrest of a young man, Christopher Servellón. The police accuses him of extortion even though the bus drivers declared that he didn't extort them.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/protesta-ciudadana-falso-culpable-es-llevado-tribunales>

Edmundo Orellana Mercado, the former Attorney General, is convinced that the oppositional parties should have done more to save the PAC from the

attack by the TSE and the JOH administration. He fears that in the future, this attack could be repeated against Libre.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/29/tse-le-arrebato-partido-salvador-nasralla-la-oposicion-no-dijo-pio-edmundo-orellana/>

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/29/joh-esta-feliz-viendo-los-partidos-oposicion-se-hacen-pedazos-edmundo-orellana/>

The UN Human Rights Office in Honduras continues its opposition against JOH's intent to lower the punishable age.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/29/oacnuh-cierra-filas-contra-reduccion-la-edad-punible/>

Honduras' Medical College demands an audit of the University Hospital by the TSC.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2017/05/honduras-colegio-medico-pide-al-tsc-que.html>

The MP demanded a 19 and a half year prison sentence for the mayor of Juticalpa Ramón Sarmiento for various crimes.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/29/condenan-al-alcalde-de-juticalpa-honduras-a-19-anos-de-carcel-por-uso-y-almacenamiento-ilegal-de-armas/>

According to the secretary of finance, public debt in Honduras rose to over \$10 billion.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/en-m%C3%A1s-de-10-mil-millones-de-d%C3%B3lares-asciende-la-deuda-p%C3%BAblica-en-el-pa%C3%ADs>

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<https://btlibooks.com/book/ottawa-and-empire>

31/05/17

Journalists; Bajo Aguán; COPINH; Electoral Reform; (Re)Elections; Oppositional Alliance; National Police; Penitentiary System; Education; MP; UNAH ;and the Voice of Honduran Workers

C-Libre denounces the intimidation of journalists by soldiers in

Morocelí, El Paraíso.

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on threats and cyber-attacks against various journalists at the online newspaper Criterio.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/%E2%80%9Cy-porque-putas-no-se-van-para-all%C3%A1%E2%80%9D-le-dice-militar-periodistas>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1757-periodistas-de-criterio-hn-recipientes-ataques-ciberneticos-amenazas-y-correos-intimidatorios>

A forensic medicine team and members of the Police Investigation Bureau (DPI) conducted various exhumations in the Bajo Aguán of murdered people linked to the struggle for land.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/exhumaci%C3%B3n-de-cuerpos-se-realiza-este-d%C3%ADa-en-el-bajo-aguan>

COPINH held its 11th general assembly to elect its new coordinating team.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2017/05/declaracion-de-la-xi-asamblea-general.html>

<https://hondurasresists.blogspot.ch/2017/05/the-path-is-more-struggle-more.html>

Nincy Perdomo reports on the debate and implementation of the Clean Politics Act, or as she writes: "Ignoring Politics when Combating Corruption."

Congress elected yesterday the three commissioners of the newly created Clean Politics Unit: German Espinal, proposed by Libre; Kelvin Aguirre, proposed by the National Party; and Javier Franco, proposed by the Liberal Party.

PINU congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez criticizes the election and she wonders if the MACCIH vetted the candidates properly.

<http://elpulso.hn/upl2/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/30/parlamento-hondureno-elige-a-los-nuevos-comisionados-de-politica-limpia/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/en-la-eleccion-de-unidad-de-politica-limpia-se-noto-la-alianza-pn-pl-libre-diputada-gutierrez.html>

The notorious evangelical priest Evelio Reyes once more played politics by calling his followers not to vote for any party that wants to redistribute wealth.

Vice-president Ricardo Álvarez thankfully took this up.

Libre coordinator Manuel Zelaya, meanwhile, criticizes his statement.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2283-pastor-hondureno-opuesto-a-que-se-distribuya-la-riqueza>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/30/vicepresidente-pide-a-las-ovejas-de-honduras-hacerle-caso-al-pastor-protestante-evelio-reyes/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/30/zelaya-critica-a-pastor-protestante-y-le-reclama-por-su-silencio-por-violencia-en-honduras/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2284-guillermo-valle-exige-respeto-a-lideres-religiosos>

Javier Suazo offers his analysis of the proposed program by the Oppositional Alliance.

[www.alainet.org/es/articulo/185749](http://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/185749)

Congress also approved the new Organic Law for the National Police Force. At the same time, they approved various promotions of police and army officials.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/30/parlamento-de-honduras-aprueba-nueva-ley-organica-de-la-policia-nacional/>

<http://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-aprueba-ascensos-oficiales-policias/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/congreso-aprueba-ascensos-policiales-y-militares.html>

Conaprev's representative Orle Solís revealed yesterday that the inmates at the El Pozo II were able to rip out the bars from their cell and use it as weapons to damage the inside of the prison.

After JOH, Billy Joya now also tries to sugarcoat the riot by inmates.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/05/30/honduras-revelan-que-reos-arrancaron-los-barrotes-de-la-carcel-de-ultra-alta-seguridad-la-tolva/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/%E2%80%9Ces-natural-la-reacci%C3%B3n-de-los-reos%E2%80%9D-billy-joya>

>From May 29 to May 31, the Latin-American Network of Education Workers is holding its meeting in Tela, Atlántida.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/maestras-de-america-latina-se-articulan-para-enfrentar-a-un-sistema-opresor/>

On June 15, the preliminary audience in the murder case of public prosecutor Orlan Arturo Chávez will take place. He was shot dead in April 2013 in Tegucigalpa.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/30/mp-solicitar-juicio-oral-publico-asesinos-fiscal-oro/>

<http://tiempo.hn/mp-pedira-juicio-supuestos-asesinos-del-fiscal-oro/>

UNAH's dean continues criminalizing protesting students. Now she claims that some of them carried explosives with them when occupying a UNAH building in protest of a criminalizing trial against three other students. Criterio wonders if she is trying to get them tried under the new anti-terrorist law.

ConexiHon offers the criminalization of students from a mother's perspective.

<http://criterio.hn/2017/05/30/manifestantes-la-unah-llevaban-explosivos-julieta-castellanos/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/la-criminalizacion-de-la-lucha-estudiantil-desde-la-mirada-maternal>

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<http://kboo.fm/media/57963-voces-de-trabajadores-voices-workers-choluteca-honduras>