

01/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta Trial; Hydroelectricity; Mining - Los Pinares; Bajo Aguán; Natural Catastrophes; Caravan - Defamation; Education; IACtHR; FoE - Death Squads; Corruption - Banadesa, IHSS; and Angry White Men

COPINH and Berta's family held a protest outside the Supreme Court demanding justice and denouncing the judicial farce taking place inside the court rooms.

Afterwards, when Berta's family tried to access the court room, they were denied access.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/audio-justicia-para-bertha-planton-en-la-corte-suprema-de-justicia/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/fotos-alerta-guardias-niegan-acceso-a-copinh-y-familia-de-bertha-a-juicio/>

Defensores en Línea denounces that two additional members of the Environmental Committee for the Protection of the Reitoca River are being criminalized. The two HRDs Wilmer Otoniel Alonso Herrera and José Orlando Rodas García are accused of usurpation at the expense of the company Progelsa.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/sistema-de-justicia-busca-inhabilitar-la-reclamacion-de-derechos-bertha-oliva/>

Libre has nominated a commission to find a solution to the situation in Guapinol. They feel compelled to do so as the local mayor, Adán Fúnez, belongs to Libre.

At the same time, El Tiempo reports on an intensification of operations by state security forces in the region.

<https://tiempo.hn/libre-envia-comision-de-diputados-a-medar-en-conflicto-minero-en-guapinol/>

<https://tiempo.hn/intensifican-operativos-y-el-desarme-en-guapinol-tras-muerte-de-soldados/>

OFRANEH sees the death of the two members of the Armed Forces in Guapinol (see previous section and previous days) as further evidence that the Bajo Aguán region became in 2009 a low-intensity war ground due to repression by the Armed Forces to social demands by the campesino sector.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/11/01/el-clan-facusse-y-el-recrudescimiento-de-la-guerra-de-baja-intensidad-en-el-aguan/>

In October 1998, Honduras was ravaged by Hurricane Mitch. Expediente Público spoke with the Honduran political analyst Manuel Torres Calderón who wrote a book about it. He posits that "Hurricane Mitch broke the economic and social model that the State of Honduras had installed since 1990, «in that year the country initiated the neoliberal adjustment model, which included privatizations of the public sector, triggering greater inequality; in 1990 56% of the population was poor, in 1998 it was 69%»."

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/comunidad/117-tragedia-del-mitch-no-fue-el-huracan-fue-el-sistema>

Radio Progreso holds the same economic model, which aggravated the social consequences of Mitch, responsible for the migrant caravan. Avispa Media published the third and final part of its investigation into the push factors of Honduran migration. "All those people who leave are those who suffer the daily crises of a model that expels them."

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn/caravana-de-migrantes-la-integran-los-que-sufren-las-crisis-cotidianas-de-un-modelo-que-los-expulsa/>

<https://avispa.org/violencia-despojo-hambre-represion-honduras-y-las-razones-del-exodo-migrante-parte-3/>

In a new press release, Libre denounces the ongoing defamation of the migrant caravan and its participants by the JOH regime and the Trump administration.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/11/honduras-donald-trump-y-el-regimen-de.html>

Expediente Público reports on the dangerous job of being a teacher in Honduras. Already eight teachers have been murdered this year, 87 since 2009. CONADEH lists 54 cases in which teachers had to be transferred for suffering violence.

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/seguridad-y-violencia/114-la-peligrosa-labor-de-ser-docente-en-honduras>

Defensores en Línea published a summary of the contributions made at the forum on the obstacles for investigating human rights violations in Honduras.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-mayor-obstaculo-para-cumplir-con-sentencias-de-la-corte-idh-es-la-falta-de-voluntad-politica/>

The Supreme Court rejected the complaint by Billy Joya against Libre congressman Jorge Cálix. The latter made references on TV about Joya's role in founding the 3-16 Battalion, a death squad, in the 1980s. In a joint statement with human rights scholar Joaquín A. Mejía Rivera, Cálix highlights the opportunity to demand justice for the crimes in the 80s that arose with the rejection of Joya's complaint.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/01/desestiman-querella-contra-diputado-jorge-calix-por-parte-de-billy-joya/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/magistrado-no-admite-demanda-de-billy-joya-contra-diputado-jorge-calix.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/01/la-inadmisibilidad-de-la-querella-de-billy-joya-contra-jorge-calix-y-el-derecho-a-la-verdad-frente-a-los-crmenes-del-pasado/>

A new legal tool that recently has been used in Honduras to stop reporting on corruption cases is the law of presumed innocence. Honduran journalist now demand the creation of a commission to clarify the contradictions between this law and the access to public information and free expression.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/crearan-comision-para-aclarar-confusiones-entre-presuncion-de-inocencia-y-libre-acceso-a-la-informacion.html>

The CNA informed about a new line of investigation involving the National Bank for Agrarian Development (Banadesa).

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3060-cna-expone-desfalco-en-banadesa-por-37-millones>

<https://confidencialhn.com/piden-investigar-a-exfuncionarios-que-dilapidaron-recursos-de-banadesa/>

In the IHSS corruption case, the Supreme Court rejected an appeal by the company COSEM.

<https://confidencialhn.com/rechazan-recurso-a-favor-de-empresa-propiedad-de-los-tetos-involucrada-en-quebra-del-ihss/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1230046-466/deniegan-recurso-a-favor-de-los-tetos-en-el-caso-del-ihss>

<https://www.newyorker.com/humor/borowitz-report/americans-would-feel-safer-if-a-huge-caravan-of-angry-white-men-left-the-country>

02/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, US; Mining - Los Pinares; Political Prisoners; Caravan - Canada; Journalists, Economy; JOH; Military Police; EEH; National Party; and a Culture of Death

Yesterday, 32 months have passed without justice in the Berta Cáceres case. COPINH denounces police repression in front of the Supreme Court while they tried to commemorate Berta on the Day of the Dead. Around the world people and organizations commemorated her life and struggle. The trial will continue on Monday at 9am.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1058500020482330629>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/32-meses-sin-justicia/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/foto-a-32-meses-sin-justicia-altar-para-berta-en-la-corte/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/un-juicio-sin-las-victimas-es-un-juicio-ilegal-exigimos-justicia-verdadera-para-berta-caceres/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/jubileo-sur-la-palabra-berta-es-sinonimo-de-lucha-exigimos-justicia/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/carta-de-global-witness-al-embajador-ivan-romero-martinez/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/el-lunes-seguira-el-juicio-oral-y-publico-en-el-caso-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres.html>

Berta Zúniga was in the US this week to speak at Berkeley "about her mother's assassination and her family's struggle to secure justice in the murder case, which has garnered worldwide attention."

<https://www.kqed.org/news/11703189/daughter-of-slain-environmentalist-connects-migrant-caravan-to-honduran-governments-failures>

A delegation by the Coalition against Impunity traveled to Guapinol to document grave human rights violations affecting more than 600 families. Yesterday, they presented their findings in Tocoa. The Dioceses of Trujillo holds the JOH regime directly responsible for the situation in Guapinol. The mayor of Tocoa, Adán Fúnez, now promises to withdraw the licences from the mining company Inversiones Los Pinares.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2322-mision-de-la-coalicion-contrala-impunidad-constata-graves-violaciones-a-los-derechos-humanos-en-guapinol>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/02/crisis-del-aguan-y-tocoa-ha-sido-generada-por-el-propio-estado-diocesis-de-trujillo/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3064-alcalde-de-tocoa-cancelara-operaciones-de-minera-de-la-muerte>

UN representative Igor Garafulic confirmed talks on the possible use of an amnesty for the political prisoners.

<https://confidencialhn.com/politicos-en-dialogo-discuten-con-funcionarios-de-seguridad-eventual-amnistia/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1230305-466/comit%C3%A9-del-di%C3%A1logo-indaga-informaci%C3%B3n-sobre-amnist%C3%ADa-pol%C3%ADtica>

The migrant caravan arrived yesterday in the state of Veracruz. Ana Ortega published an interesting analysis for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (ES) on "dispossession to forced migration, the dramatic expulsion of thousands of Hondurans". Yesterday, COFADEH held its monthly public protest to commemorate the

forcefully disappeared and hold to justice those responsible. This month, they dedicated the protest to the migrant caravan.

<https://tiempo.hn/primera-caravana-de-migrantes-obtendra-ayuda-en-veracruz-mientras-que-la-cuarta-acaba-de-ingresar-a-mexico/>

http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/fesamcentral/14764.pdf?fbclid=IwAR30KEds2Jvy_3ZJ8tZ4de-3WRZne5vSdQG6uEmplvMGgXW6VnfpMCSqBo

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/complicidad-en-manipulacion-politica-de-refugiados-hondurenos/>

Fred Alvarado lauds Canada's intention to increase the number of refugees they will welcome this year but he also criticizes the apparent indifference to the migrants fleeing from Honduras.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2321-mientras-canada-anuncia-que-recibira-40-000-nuevos-inmigrantes-justin-trudeau-indiferente-ante-crisis-de-refugiados-que-huyen-de-honduras>

FOSDEH highlights the weaknesses of the proposed plans by JOH to bolster the economy as a response to the migrant crisis.

<https://confidencialhn.com/estrategias-de-joh-para-reactivar-encomia-no-son-novedosas-prosigue-la-miseria/>

C-Libre denounces that Billy Joya denigrated the online newspaper Criterio. Criterio reported on Thursday on the rejection of his complaint against Libre congressman Jorge Cálix (see yesterday). Joya made a whole show on TV even going to his knees asking the Supreme Court to open a trial against Cálix. Criterio's director Emy Padilla reacted to his attack with another article. Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the case of the journalist Walter Ulloa who suffers persecution and denigration from the authorities in Siguatepeque.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/estigmatizacion/923-asesor-en-materia-de-seguridad-estigmatiza-a-medio-de-comunicacion-digital>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/02/billy-joya-se-arrodilla-en-pleno-programa-de-debate-video/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/02/a-billy-joya-con-la-verdad-desde-criterio/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2320-periodista-de-siguatepeque-con-publicidad-intentan-callarme>

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle presents an analysis on what keeps JOH in power and what may take it away from him.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/02/que-sostiene-a-joh-y-quien-lo-puede-tumbar/>

Two members of the Military Police were detained accused of murder.

<https://tiempo.hn/de-nuevo-capturan-a-dos-militares-acusados-de-asesinato/>

The mayor of San José de Colinas, Santa Bárbara criticized the Honduran-Colombian Energy Company Honduras (EEH) in a town hall meeting. According to him, they are charging the community for energy they did not even deliver yet.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/02/alcalde-denuncia-que-ehh-les-esta-cobrando-l-1-3-millones-por-energia-no-consumida/>

The Nationalist councilor of Gualcine, Lempira, Victoriano Martínez, was murdered.

<https://confidencialhn.com/asesinan-a-un-regidor-nacionalista-en-comunidad-occidental-hondurena/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/asesinan-a-regidor-municipal-de-gualcince-lempira.html>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/cultura-de-la-muerte-02-noviembre-2018/>

03/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Mining - Los Pinares; Femicide; National Police; LGBTI; ATIC; Palmerola; and We Are All the Wall

COPINH and the Alignment against the Reelection published a helpful infographic on "the thorny road in search of justice for Berta Cáceres" focusing on the legal challenges presented by Berta's family and COPINH and the failure by the judicial system to respond according to the law. The defense team of the accused demands an investigation of the protected witness.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Infograf%C3%ADa-Berta2.jpg>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/defensa-de-presuntos-asesinos-de-berta-caceres-pide-investigar-a-testigo-protegido.html>

The former president of the TSE, Augusto Aguilar, claims in an interview with Radio HRN that it is not possible to conduct a plebiscite in Tocoa regarding the mining projects in the region. This was proposed by the local mayor as a response to a mining conflict in Guapinol.

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/03/empresa-minera-de-acuerdo-con-levantar-un-plebiscito-en-colon/>

El Pulso published an analysis by Lara Bohórquez Alvarenga on sexual violence and gender in Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/yo-no-quiero-ser-violada-violencia-y-genero/>

Last Sunday, the MP opened an investigation for attempted homicide against the three police agents who shot at a car with 5 civilian passengers, three of which children (see e-mail from October 28). ATIC arrested the three men and they already had the initial hearing. The three children are still in a critical state.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3067-por-balazos-a-menores-policias-hondurenos-esperan-juicio-en-prision>

In a press release, CONADEH proposes an "inclusive deliberation" about the advances in recognizing the rights of LGBTI people.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/conadeh-pide-avanzar-en-reconocimiento-de-derechos-de-personas-lgtbi.html>

ConfidencialHN reports that the human rights prosecutor Soraya Morales who is also responsible for the evaluating commission of MP employees plans to evaluate ATIC agents as well.

<https://confidencialhn.com/depuracion-sutil-anuncian-evaluacion-de-agentes-de-la-atic/>

JOH claims that the Palmerola airport will start its operations in mid 2021.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/aeropuerto-de-palmerola-empezara-a-operar-a-mediados-de-2021-segun-presidente-herandez.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/somoselmuro-la-satira-y-el-racismo-contra-centroamericanos-en-mexico/>

04/11/18

Honduras Daily: Mining - Los Pinares; NGOs; Political Opposition; Rosenthal; Congress; Hondutel; and More Violence

The inhabitants of the more than 20 communities affected by the mining project by Inversiones Los Pinares are doubtful about the change of hearth by the mayor of Tocoa. Adán Fúnez proposed a plebiscite last week after years of being quite about the mining projects in his region.

<https://tiempo.hn/caso-guapinol-no-hay-arreglo-2/>

According to the governance minister Leonel Ayala, there are some 15'000 NGOs in Honduras. In an interview with Radio HRN, he announced audits of some of the NGOs.

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/04/mas-de-15000-ongs-operan-en-honduras/>

Some days ago, Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle wrote an OpEd in Criterio on what keeps JOH in power. In an editorial, Criterio takes up one of the points raised by Pastor Fasquelle, the failure of the political opposition to decide together on one joint candidacy.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/04/ningun-politico-de-oposicion-quiere-ser-segundon-asi-sea-que-honduras-se-hunda/>

The lawyer Raúl Suazo Barillas believes that the Rosenthal family may be successful with its \$1 billion lawsuit against the State of Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/penalista-asegura-que-hay-razones-legales-para-que-los-rosenthal-demanden-al-estado/>

Nincy Perdomo once more presents us the current discussions at Congress in her parliamentary chronicles.

<http://elpulso.hn/cp-301-1011-2018/>

According to the finance minister Rocío Tábora, there are foreign companies interested in buying Hondutel.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/deficit-de-hondutel-es-de-150-millones-de-lempiras-senala-ministra-de-finanzas.html>

Four people, among them a former police agent, were murdered in Nacaome by men wearing military uniforms using high-caliber weapons.

<https://confidencialhn.com/masacre-asesinan-a-cuatro-personas-en-el-sur-de-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/caliente/12-caliente/asesinan-a-cuatro-personas-en-el-sur-de-honduras.html>

05/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Corruption - Caja Chicha, Catholic Church; Caravan - Defamation; US - JOH, MCF; Journalists; and a Popular Consultation?

The Supreme Court decided to maintain the pre-trial detention of five of the accused in the Berta Cáceres time even though the legally permitted time has expired.

The Spanish congressman Jesús Rodríguez who is part of an international observation team spoke with the Spanish newspaper El Diario about the

trial. He voices great doubt regarding the outcome of the trial, i.e.

that it will bring forward justice.

<https://www.mp.hn/index.php/author-login/115-noviembre-2018/3623-prision-preventiva-para-implicados-en-el-crimen-de-la-lider-ambientalista-berta-caceres-no-se-vence-todavia>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/ultimomomento/>

https://www.eldiario.es/politica/Diputado-justicia-asesinato-Berta-Caceres_0_832217129.html

The MACCIH invited for a press conference yesterday.

The press conference was live-streamed and can be watch following the second link.

The MACCIH and UFECIC presented its newest investigation involving the former secretary of the financial presidential affairs, Wilfredo Cerrato, and the brother of the former president Porfirio Lobo, Ramón Lobo Sosa. They are accused of stealing more than 8 million Lempiras in what has been dubbed the "Caja Chica del Hermano" case.

The president of the National Party, Reinaldo Sánchez, immediately came to their defense.

https://www.oas.org/es/centro_noticias/comunicado_prensa.asp?sCodigo=AVI-151/18

<https://www.facebook.com/OEAMACCIH/videos/vb.575386339332629/595296144224057/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3070-caja-chica-del-hermano-sexto-golpe-de-maccih-a-corruptos>

https://www.oas.org/es/centro_noticias/comunicado_prensa.asp?sCodigo=C-067/18

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/se-les-debe-de-respetar-el-derecho-a-la-legitima-defensa-dice-reinaldo-sanchez.html>

The migrant caravan arrived in the Mexican state of Veracruz. There they split up in various groups after the mayor of Veracruz did not come through with a promise to offer them buses to Mexico City.

Sandra Cuffe portrays a Honduran migrant currently on the way to the US in one of the now several migrant caravan. "Billy Noe Martinez was less 150km from the US-Mexico border eight years ago when his journey came to an abrupt stop. A group of men abducted Martinez, along with other migrants he was travelling with, at gunpoint, took them to a ranch, and lined them up with their face against a wall. The gunmen then shot them one-by-one. Standing at the end of the line, Martinez managed to escape through a window, hiding submerged in a river until the gunfire ended, he said."

Anna-Catherine Brigida writing for the Washington Post believes that migrating in large groups may become the new normal. "Traveling in groups is perceived as safer and cheaper for migrants, who often pay \$7,000 to \$10,000 to smugglers called coyotes to avoid the dangers of crossing Mexico. Migrants do not pay to join a caravan, and many travel without much cash, to avoid being robbed. Rather than carry many provisions, members of the caravan often rely on the generosity of people along the way to feed them."

<http://elpulso.hn/caravana-de-migrantes-centroamericanos-se-divide-en-veracruz/>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/11/181105155703307.html>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/will-caravans-become-new-method-of-migration/2018/11/02/34bebd24-dd4f-11e8-b732-3c72cbf131f2_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.878f43cd8710

Back in Honduras, JOH launched a new attack against the non-existing

organizers of the caravan and he, once more, announced an investigation.

His Guatemalan counterpart Jimmy Morales agreed with him and promised to collaborate.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/se-debe-investigar-y-castigar-con-severidad-a-quienes-promueven-la-migracion-juan-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/jimmy-morales-le-sigue-el-juego-a-hernandez-en-tema-de-migracion/>

Radio Progreso reports on new accusation by Trump against the JOH regime saying that millions of dollars have been sent to Honduras which probably were stolen due to the lack of results. Radio Progreso wonders if this is another sign that US support for JOH is weakening.

Oscar Miguel Marroquín shares this view.

The JOH regime, meanwhile, publicly asks the Trump administration to rectify its statement.

According to them, they do not administer the money, but rather the US embassy and USAID do.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/donald-trump-acusa-al-gobierno-de-honduras-de-robarse-fondos-donados-por-ee-uu/>

<http://wp.radioprogressohn.net/acusacion-de-trump-siembradudas-sobre-continuidad-de-apoyo-al-gobierno-de-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/joh-de-mandadero-a-posible-ladron-que-dice-ahora-la-senora-fulton/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/gobierno-de-honduras-pide-a-trump-que-rectifique-su-acusacion-sobre-robo-de-fondos/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3069-gobierno-hondureno-exige-a-trump-rectificar-acusaciones-de-robo>

<http://www.proceso.hn/economia/6-economia/honduras-no-administra-un-solo-dolar-de-la-ayuda-de-eeuu-ministra-de-finanzas.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/reacciona-joh-pregunten-a-la-embajada-de-ee-uu-sobre-como-se-administra-el-dinero/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/nacionalistas-aseguran-que-hernandez-no-ha-tocado-un-centavito/>

ConfidencialHN published additional information about irregularities regarding the funds administered by the former bishop Juan José Pineda.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fideicomiso-administrado-por-exobispo-pineda-le-dejo-jugosos-intereses-que-no-declaro/>

Criterio reports that Honduras failed for the ninth consecutive time to access the Millennium Challenge Account funds.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/gobierno-de-joh-aplazado-de-nuevo-en-la-cuenta-del-milenio/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/honduras-mejora-indicadores-pero-queda-sin-acceso-a-cuenta-del-milenio.html>

Pasos de Animal Grande spoke with Víctor Puerto, journalist in Puerto Cortés for over 30 years, about the difficulty of being a journalist in Honduras, especially an independent one.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2323-calamidad-economica-pone-de-rodillas-al-periodismo-en-puerto-cortes>

Congress' president Mauricio Oliva seemed to have a change of heart as he suddenly speaks out in favor for a popular consultation.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/05/mauricio-oliva-ahora-es-abanderado-de-consultarle-al-pueblo/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/la-consulta-popular-es-la-unica-salida-que-nos-queda-para-superar-diferencias-dice-mauricio-oliva.html>

06/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Extractivism - FPIC; FoE; US; Caravan - US; Corruption - Health Sector, Catholic Church; Equality; MP - Forensic Medicine; Drug Trafficking; Public Health; Int. Cooperation; and MeToo at UNAH

The international mission of NGOs accompanying the Berta Cáceres trial will hold a forum tomorrow in Tegucigalpa on "Access and Participation of Victims Seeking Justice in Penal Law".

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/acceso-y-participacion-de-las-victimas-a-la-justicia-en-el-derecho-penal/>

A three-day international encounter on the manipulation of consultations and consent in favor of extractive projects will take place in Guatemala from November 15-17.

<http://movimientom4.org/2018/11/encuentro-m4-la-manipulacion-de-la-consulta-y-consentimiento-a-favor-del-extractivismo-retos-y-desafios-de-los-pueblos/>

Radio Progreso celebrates the decision by a Supreme Court judge to reject a complaint by Billy Joya against Libre congressman Jorge Cálix. The latter publicly talked about Joya's past as the founder of the death squad 3-16. Joya accused him of defamation. For Radio Progreso, the rejection of his complaint represents a triumph of freedom of expression regarding past crimes.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/un-triunfo-para-la-libertad-de-expresion-en-materia-de-crimes-del-pasado/>

A new book in English on Honduras has been published, "The Long Honduran Night: Resistance, Terror, and the United States in the Aftermath of the Coup". Its author Dana Frank will present in Washington DC on November 28.

<https://www.busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-6750901/>

The Guardian reports on the division in subgroups of the migrant caravan in Veracruz (see also yesterday). They are on their way to Mexico City now. The first groups have already reached the capital.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/05/migrant-caravan-latest-mexico-city-path-asylum-seekers>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-migrante-ya-es-multitud-en-ciudad-mexico-donde-aflora-solidaridad.html>

The former Attorney General Edmundo Orellana published his analysis of Trump's statement accusing the JOH regime of misusing US money (see yesterday). "Beyond what is manifestly a transgression of the most elementary norms of diplomacy, Trump's denunciation places the Honduran government, which he has highlighted in his accusation, in a very uncomfortable position before the world and in risk that the dreaded Magnitsky Law will be applied to its highest officials."

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/06/la-acusacion-de-trump/>

The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) estimates that Honduras yearly loses 20-30 billion Lempiras due to corruption.

<https://tiempo.hn/entre-20-y-30-mil-millones-de-lempiras-pierde-honduras-por-la-corrupcion-segun-cna/>

CNA also informs about the newest investigations into corruption in the public health sector. According to them, there are some 300 people involved.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/cna-mas-de-300-personas-conforman-red-de-corrupcion-en-salud.html>

More and more details regarding the unsavory behavior of the former auxiliary bishop Juan José Pineda come to light.

<https://confidencialhn.com/obispo-juan-jose-pineda-dilapido-dinero-en-amantes-autos-motos-y-propiedades/>

Some 50 civil society organizations representing 10 different sectors, e.g. LGBTI, women or the young, came together in Tegucigalpa to work on a draft bill on equality and equity.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2324-trabajan-primer-borrador-de-la-ley-de-igual-y-equidad-para-sectores-vulnerables>

The three Attorney Generals of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras held a joined meeting yesterday to discuss regional collaboration.

<https://www.mp.hn/index.php/author-login/115-noviembre-2018/3631-declaracion-conjunta-operacion-escudo-regional-iii>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/fiscalias-del-triangulo-norte-acordaron-la-creacion-de-una-fuerza-de-tarea-transnacional-de-fiscales.html>

The head of Forensic Medicine, Julissa Villanueva, continues to denounce undue influence by the MP in her department.

<https://confidencialhn.com/jefa-forense-denuncia-intromision-del-fiscal-adjunto-por-contratacion-de-personal/>

Another suspected member of the Valle drug cartel has been extradited to the US.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3074-extraditan-a-hondureno-vinculado-cartel-de-hermanos-valle>

<https://confidencialhn.com/extraditan-a-supuesto-socio-de-los-valle-valle/>

Last month, JOH nominated an intervention commission for the public health system. Yesterday, its head Julieta Castellanos spoke for the first time to the media. Her nomination has been criticized as she is investigating the situation of the University Hospital, the same hospital she was responsible for as the dean of UNAH. Accordingly, the Medical Association of Honduras (CMH) questions the report presented by the commission.

<https://confidencialhn.com/interventores-de-salud-denuncian-caos-en-red-hospitalaria-de-honduras/>

<https://tiempo.hn/presentan-ante-el-cna-formal-denuncia-por-irregularidades-cometidas-en-el-hospital-escuela/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/comision-interventora-denuncia-ingobernabilidad-fraccionamiento-y-el-desorden-en-secretaria-de-salud.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/colegio-medico-cuestiona-informe-de-comision-interventora-de-salud.html>

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/06/cmh-miembros-la-comision-de-transformacion-de-salud-son-parte-de-la-crisis-hospitalaria/>

The JOH regime held a meeting with Harvard professor Matt Andrews who held a workshop on public administration.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/universidad-de-harvard-brindara-asistencia-tecnica-para-potenciar-administracion-publica.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/opinion-histerias-listas-anonimas-y-el-terror-de-los-hombres-en-la-unah/>

07/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Money; JOH; Rule of Law; Constituent Assembly; Historic Memory; Caravan; Corruption - Caja Chica, Astropharma, Mayors; Business; and a Scientist Resists

COPINH follows the money behind the assassination of Berta Cáceres and presents their finding in a Twitterstream. They present among other things a document showing that Sergio Rodríguez requested 100'000 Lempiras from DESA to stop a COPINH protest. The request included an item "food for the police which is at the site to help".

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/acerca-de-los-dineros-de-desa-y-el-asesinato-de-bertacaceres/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1060257962617434114>

Yesterday, the Social Platform of Citizens for Honduras constituted itself. In their first press release, they demand the removal of JOH and those who accompanied his illegal presidency. They propose new early elections organized by a provisional government.

The platform was born out of an initiative by the Liberal Party, but it now also includes Salvador Nasralla and members of Libre as well as different sectors of the public.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/07/plataforma-ciudadana-exige-salida-de-joh-y-convocatoria-anticipada-a-elecciones-generales/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3076-plataforma-ciudadana-pide-inmediata-salida-del-gobernante-juan-hernandez>

<https://confidencialhn.com/luis-invita-a-personas-anti-joh-sumarse-a-plataforma-social-ciudadana/>

<https://tiempo.hn/plataforma-social-ciudadana-salida-de-joh/>

In the newest Rule of Law Index by the World Justice Project, Honduras ranks 103 out of 113 countries and the authors found a further declining tendency of the rule of law in the country.

<https://tiempo.hn/honduras-sigue-aplazado-en-justicia-civil-y-penal-segun-informe-internacional/>

https://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/documents/WJP-ROLI-2018-June-Online-Edition_0.pdf

After the unexpected (and maybe only superficial) volte-face by Congress' president Mauricio Oliva regarding a popular consultation, the debate has heated up again.

It is also not clear, what is on the table, a real constituent assembly or a popular consultation about a particular topic.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mel-y-elvin-coinciden-en-necesidad-de-implementar-consulta-popular/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/nasralla-expresidentes-ladrones-buscan-borrón-y-cuenta-nueva-constituyente/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/nacionalista-respalda-idea-de-consulta-diputada-por-el-pinu-la-rechaza/>

<https://tiempo.hn/julieta-castellanos-consulta-popular/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/ricardo-alvarez-apoya-consulta-pero-no-constituyente.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/no-hay-condiciones-para-una-asamblea-nacional-constituyente-segun-analista-jorge-yllescas.html>

COFADEH denounces that sites of historic memories are under threat in Honduras. They present the case of the Square of the Disappeared in Tegucigalpa, where they hold a monthly protest and demand justice in past and current cases of forced disappearance.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/amenazados-los-espacios-de-la-memoria-historica/>

Some 4500 migrants participating in one of the caravans gathered in Mexico City tired after an already 1600km long march. Most plan to continue north.

<http://elpulso.hn/migrantes-descansan-en-ciudad-de-mexico-algunos-disuadidos-por-hostilidad-de-ee-uu/>

Criterio consulted various economists to estimate the loss to the Hondurans people due to the two Nationalist governments failure to access the Millennium Challenge Account. They guess that Hondurans lost out some \$750 millions so far and more will be added to this sum in the years to come.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/06/honduras-ha-perdido-750-millones-de-cuenta-del-milenio-por-corrupcion-gobiernos-nacionalistas/>

InSight Crime picks up the newest corruption case coming out of Honduras (see e-mail from two days ago). "A new investigation has involved Ramón Lobo Sosa, brother of former Honduras President Porfirio Lobo, in a corruption scheme that diverted funds from the president's party to private individuals. This case further cinches the net around Lobo and his circle of loyalists, who are suspected of drug trafficking links."

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/corruption-former-honduras-president/>

The Astropharma corruption case will go to trial and 14 people will face charges for fraud and more.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/expediente-del-juicio-de-astropharma-llega-a-tribunal-de-sentencia.html>

To protest against alleged acts of corruption by the mayor of Talanga, Roosevelt Avilés, inhabitants and opposition councilors occupied the mayoral building.

This led to a confrontation with supporters of the mayor.

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/07/se-agudiza-conflicto-en-alcaldia-de-talanga/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/seguidores-y-criticos-del-alcalde-de-talanga-se-van-a-las-pedradas-hay-varios-heridos/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/varias-personas-heridas-en-enfrentamiento-entre-pobladores-de-talanga.html>

The business lobby COHEP criticizes the worsening conditions of Honduras' economy reflected for example in the Doing Business ranking.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/07/el-cohep-pone-el-grito-al-cielo-ante-caida-de-indicadores-economicos/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3072-representa-una-dictadura-cientifica-hondurena-rechaza-marca-pais>

<https://tiempo.hn/mary-vallecillo-rechazo-marca-pais/>

08/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, Police; Mining - Tránsito; Journalists; Caravan - LGTBI; Fiscal Policy; Pentecostal Churches; National Dialogue - HR; Corruption - Caja Chicha, Congress; National Police; and the Birth of Guadalupe

With the exclusion from the defense team of Berta's family and COPINH, the Berta Cáceres trial took a turn to the worse two weeks ago. Next Tuesday, COPINH together with the Platform of Social and Popular Movements of Honduras and the Social Sciences Department at the UNAH will hold a public event informing about "the truth that the Honduran justice system tries to hide about the murder of Berta Cáceres. The court expelled the victims from the trial to prevent the truth from being revealed, now it is exposed to the public."

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/la-verdad-de-la-causa-berta-caceres/>

Yesterday, the forum "Access and Participation of Victims Seeking Justice in Penal Law" took place in Honduras and COPINH published a video of the event.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video-foro-acceso-de-las-victimas-a-la-justicia-colombia-guatemala-y-honduras/>

Proceso Digital reports that the case of a former police agent and an investigator falsifying proof in the Berta Cáceres case will go to trial-

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/elevan-a-juicio-causa-contr-dos-vinculados-al-crimen-de-berta-caceres.html>

CIPRODEH expressed its concern about the situation in El Tránsito where a mining company tries to force through with violence the continuation of a mining project.

<http://www.ciprodeh.org.hn/index.php/noticias-principales/433-llamado-al-respeto-a-los-derechos-humanos-de-pobladores-y-pobladoras-de-la-comunidad-del-transito-nacaome-valle>

Reporters without Borders denounces the persecution of and attacks against journalists in Honduras, highlighting the case of the journalists reporting on the situation in Guapinol.

<https://rsf.org/es/noticias/honduras-rsf-denuncia-graves-ataques-periodistas-del-departamento-de-colon>

Proceso Digital reports that some 35 members of the LGBTI community are among the Hondurans traveling north in the migrant caravan.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/integrantes-de-la-lgtbi-participan-en-la-caravana-migratoria-hacia-estados-unidos.html>

CONADEH published a report on the migrant caravan and the institution's response to it as well as recommendations to the executive power and other sectors.

<http://elpulso.hn/reporte-del-conadeh-en-torno-a-la-caravana-de-migrantes/>

Radio Progreso denounces use of tax exemptions as a policy tool in Honduras leading companies to form foundations allowing to save companies billions of Lempiras in taxes without much to show for the public.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/la-gran-estafa-08-de-noviembre-2018/>

Alex Palencia applies Marx's religion as the opioid for the people to today's Honduras and the pentecostal movement.

<http://elpulso.hn/la-conspiracion-pentecostal-en-las-americas/>

The vice-president of the Liberal Party, Maribel Espinoza, questions if the hope for agreement regarding the electoral reform will materialize due to the "double discourse" by the National Party (see also yesterday's paragraph on the popular consultation).

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/en-duda-acuerdos-del-dialogo-politico-senala-vicepresidenta-del-partido-liberal/>

46 recommendations were made in human rights matters during the national dialogue. They were sent to Congress to be discussed there.

<https://confidencialhn.com/plantean-unas-46-recomendaciones-sobre-ddhh-surgidas-en-dialogo-politico/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/hacen-46-recomendaciones-en-materia-de-derechos-humanos-en-dialogo-politico-dice-tony-garcia.html>

The judges for the Caja Chica corruption case were nominated yesterday.

<https://confidencialhn.com/nombran-a-magistrado-olivio-rodriguez-en-causa-contradados-exmiembros-del-gobierno-de-lobo/>

Five months ago, Congress abolished the departmental funds which congresswomen used for "social projects" due to numerous corruption allegations highlighted in the Red de Diputados corruption case. Now, after public pressure has subdued, they just reactivated them...

<https://confidencialhn.com/diputados-votan-masivamente-para-restaurar-fondo-departamental/>

A police agent was arrested in Tegucigalpa yesterday. ConfidencialHN reports that he accidentally shot someone believing his gun was not loaded.

<https://confidencialhn.com/capturan-tres-personas-por-muerte-de-ciudadano-uno-de-ellos-es-policia/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/11/08/naciones-en-movimiento/>

09/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, Spain; LGBTI; Mining - Guapinol; Extractivism; Corruption - Congress; Caravan - US; Forced Displacement; US - DACA; Public Health; National Police; Electoral Reforms; and Paid to Lie?

The Expert Observation Mission of the Berta Cáceres Case held a press conference yesterday expressing their deep concern about the "grave violations of the rights of the victims and other deficiencies observed throughout the trial".

On Thursday, the MP announced to go to trial against a former police agent and an investigator for falsifying proof in the Berta Cáceres investigation (see yesterday). COPINH reacted on Twitter: "However, the illegalities in the concealment of information by the MP, the theft of

the case file, the lack of investigation of the intellectual authors and the large number of crimes committed by the company DESA, partners, managers and employees have been ignored."

CEJIL writes that given the current state of the trial in Honduras, the case will likely go to the Inter-American Human Rights System.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/comunicado-conjunto-y-videos-honduras-inaceptable-tratamiento-a-las-victimas-en-juicio-por-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

<http://ciprodeh.org.hn/index.php/noticias-principales/434-fidh-denuncia-irregularidades-del-ministerio-publico-y-el-poder-judicial>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/09/exclusion-de-familia-de-berta-caceres-flores-y-acusacion-privada-es-contraria-a-estandares-internacionales-de-derechos-humanos/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1060945330315894787>

<https://twitter.com/cejil/status/1061103046699163648>

COPINH meet with the Spanish Senate Commission on International Cooperation.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/encuentro-con-la-comision-de-cooperacion-del-senado-de-espana/>

Jonathan Rafael Escobar Cruz, activist at the LGBT organization Arcoiris, was murdered on Thursday evening. His family denounces that the protection mechanism failed to act fast when he had sought out their help.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2327-denuncian-familiares-la-lentitud-en-el-mecanismo-de-proteccion-sumo-para-perder-a-jonathan>

Radio Progreso reports on the challenges to conduct a plebiscite regarding the mining project in Guapinol due to the different views by the mayors office and the local inhabitants having protested against the project for months.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/6707-2/>

Three civil society observatories (the Observatory of the Indigenous and Afro-descendent Peoples of Honduras, the Permanent Human Rights Observatory of the Aguán, and the Media Outlets Observatory of the Cattrachas) highlight the role of Elsie Paz in promoting both an extractive business model for Honduras while denigrating and criminalizing HRD and indigenous peoples.

<http://elpulso.hn/elsia-paz-la-imagen-y-voz-de-las-empresas-extractivistas-y-de-despojo-de-los-bienes-comunes-en-honduras/>

CESPAD published an analysis on the birth of the Indignados movement, its successes and failures.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2326-la-oposicion-encontrara-caminos-optimos-para-detener-este-o-cualquier-gobierno-abusivo>

The reintroduction of the departmental funds by Congress just months after they had been abolished due to corruption charges (see yesterday) was greeted with criticism.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/09/en-medio-de-la-corrupcion-congreso-de-honduras-retoma-el-fondo-departamental-para-diputados/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/09/el-fondo-social-departamental-y-la-corrupcion-en-el-congreso/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/cna-califica-de-corrupcion-la-reactivacion-de-fondos-departamentales-en-el-congreso-nacional.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/doris-gutierrez-fondo-departamental-son-para-proselitismo/>

A first group of the caravan started yesterday to take up the walk towards the US again. The majority stayed another night in Mexico City starting this morning.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/internacionales/3078-recta-final-de-exodo-hondureno-hoy-salio-de-mexico-d-f-para-frontera-de-ee-uu>

"Citing an "overwhelmed" asylum system, Donald Trump on Friday morning signed a proclamation to ban people from seeking asylum if they cross the border into the US from Mexico outside of a designated port of entry – a move that is expected to face immediate legal challenges. (...) The government regards it as an emergency measure to channel asylum seekers to ports of entry, but comes in the face of hostile rhetoric from the president where he has repeatedly described desperate Central Americans fleeing places blighted by poverty and violence to seek succor in the US as "an invasion"."

Ciprodeh's director Wilfredo Méndez told Criterio that the support by various US administrations of the Nationalist regimes in Honduras has come back to bite them.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/08/trump-administration-blocks-asylum-claims-by-those-crossing-border-illegally>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/09/apoyo-al-gobierno-de-honduras-ha-sido-un-bumeran-para-ee-uu/>

Radio Progreso reports on a case of forced displacement in San Pedro Sula affecting 20 families.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/pareciera-que-en-honduras-los-pobres-estorbamos-nos-han-dejado-sin-casa-y-en-la-calle-narran-familias-desalojadas-de-bordo-en-san-pedro-sula/>

"A federal appeals court in California has blocked the Trump administration from immediately terminating an Obama-era program protecting from deportation young immigrants brought illegally to the U.S. as children."

<https://www.npr.org/2018/11/08/665916995/federal-appeals-court-deals-trump-another-setback-on-daca?t=1541828329326>

The Catholic University of Honduras temporarily suspended some 80 students because they dared demanding the study grant they should have received for social services. Two of them were even definitively expelled.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/09/suspenden-estudiantes-de-medicina-de-la-universidad-catolica-por-reclamar-su-beca-del-servicio-social/>

A police agent was arrested and sent to pre-trial detention for illicit association and taking bribes.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mandan-al-presidio-a-otro-policia-implicado-en-banda-supuestamente-jefeada-por-comisionado/>

<https://tiempo.hn/encarcelan-a-policia-vinculado-a-banda-que-cobra-sobornos-a-ganaderos-surenos/>

The presidential minister Ebdal Díaz proposed to use the primary elections in 2021 to conduct a popular consultation on the presidential reelection.

He also tried to sweet-talk Libre by promising them a representative at the TSE.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/consulta-popular-debe-hacerse-en-elecciones-primarias-sugiere-el-gobierno.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/en-proximas-reformas-electorales-libre-conseguiria-representacion-en-el-tse/>

Radio Progreso challenges US chargé d'affaires Heide Fulton.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/a-usted-le-pagan-por-mentir-09-de-noviembre-2018/>

10/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Journalists; Journalists; Political Prisoners; LGBTI; Economy; Libre; and a New US Embassy

ConexiHon published an interesting article focusing on the lack of press freedom around the Berta Cáceres trial.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/862-obstaculos-a-la-prensa-dentro-de-grandes-preocupaciones-en-juicio-por-asesinato-contra-bera-caceres>

The journalist Jairo López was detained yesterday. While he should benefit from the Honduran protection mechanism, the arresting officers violently beat him in front of his wife and daughter. López has been accompanying as a journalist the bi-weekly protests against the Energy Company Honduras (EEH) in Choluteca. Honduran human rights organizations denounce that EEH is behind the arrest warrant.

He is accused of damages to EEH for allegedly leading a protest on August 18.

Hours after his arrest, a judge let him go with probation measures. These measures prohibit him to continue his work as a journalist. "Do not leave the country, do not give any statements, and do not participate in any protest".

The police emitted a press release after his arrest trying to present themselves as defenders of freedom of expression...

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2328-urgente-capturan-violentamente-a-jairo-lopez-beneficiario-del-mecanismo-de-proteccion>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/863-detienen-a-periodista-jairo-lopez-sumando-mas-acciones-en-su-contra>

<http://elpulso.hn/periodista-jairo-lopez-es-detenido-por-danos-a-eeh/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/dictan-medidas-cautelares-al-periodista-sureno-jairo-lopez/>

<https://tiempo.hn/periodista-jairo-lopez-medidas-cautelares/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/censura/924-juez-condiciona-la-libertad-de-periodista-con-censura-informativa>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/10/tras-captura-del-periodista-jairo-lopez-policia-asevera-ser-garante-de-la-libertad-de-expresion/>

Canadian HRD Karen Spring spoke with ABC News about her wedding with her long-time partner and political prisoner Edwin Espinal.

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/couple-weds-maximum-security-prison-draw-attention-repression/story?id=58743837>

The president of the Honduran Economists Association (CHE), Julio Raudales, publicly questions JOH promises to increase investments. According to him, the Honduran State lacks the sufficient funds for it.

<https://confidencialhn.com/estado-de-honduras-no-cuenta-con-dinero-suficiente-para-inversion-publica/>

In October, the JOH regime as well as evangelical circles in Honduras held a smear campaign against the LGBTI community and same-sex marriage (also see the upcoming monthly human rights monitor by the Honduras Forum Switzerland). Now, the Constitutional Chamber rejected an appeal

by LGBTI organizations based on a IACtHR ruling in favor of same-sex marriage. According to the court, the rejection is due to "form errors".

<https://tiempo.hn/csj-declara-inadmisible-matrimonio-igualitario/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/csj-declara-inadmisible-recurso-presentado-a-favor-del-matrimonio-gay.html>

Libre published a press release explaining why they voted in favor of the reintroduction of disputed departmental funds for congresswo/men (see the last two days). They were initially introduced by Manuela Zelaya in 2006 and administered by the Finance Secretariat and the Secretariat of the National Congress. In 2014, control was transferred to the executive power, i.e. JOH and Libre denounces that starting from this moment, there was no more oversight. According to them, the newly approved bill will take away the departmental funds from the executive power and increase oversight.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/11/honduras-partido-libertad-y-refundacion.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/asi-sera-la-nueva-embajada-de-ee-uu-en-honduras/>

11/11/18

Honduras Daily: HR Situation; LGBTI; Corruption - Congress; Electric Energy; National Dialogue - Electoral Reforms; RNP; JOH's Cabinet; Japan; and Thank You, Don Tito

The Honduras Forum Switzerland published the October edition of its monthly human rights monitor. Those wishing to receive the report in a separate e-mail can subscribe using the following e-mail address: foro_honduras_suiza@riseup.net

https://honduras-forum.ch/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/1810_AnotherMonthInHonduras.pdf

Congress' president Mauricio Oliva suddenly wants to solve everything with popular consultation. He presented the idea to ask Hondurans about same-sex marriage. LGBTI activist Erick Vidal Martínez is skeptical. According to him, same-sex marriage is a human right, especially after the ruling by the IACtHR.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/11/comunidad-lgtbi-de-honduras-pide-se-reconozca-el-matrimonio-entre-personas-del-mismo-sexo/>

Claudia Mendoza challenges Libre on the reintroduction of the departmental funds for congresswo/men (see yesterday). While she agrees that the transparency of the use of the funds deteriorated under JOH, transparency has not been great before either and it cannot be guaranteed with the bill that was approved last week.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/11/los-diputados-de-honduras-y-la-reactivacion-de-su-propia-olla-de-corrupcion/>

Interesting words coming from CONADEH commissioner Roberto Herrera Cáceres: "Access to electric energy is a human right, not a market good which can be used by the State solely to make profits."

<https://confidencialhn.com/ombudsman-exige-que-energia-electrica-sea-un-derecho-humano-y-no-mercantil/>

The discussion about a possible popular consultation continue, with the three main parties superficially being in favor, but all of them have a

different idea about what should be asked and how it should be conducted. Juliette Handal believes that it is not the right time for a constituent assembly.

<https://confidencialhn.com/tripartidismo-dice-si-a-consulta-popular-si-hay-un-nuevo-tse-que-la-dirija/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/11/posible-convocatoria-a-una-consulta-popular-reaviva-el-debate-en-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/en-este-momento-la-constituyente-no-es-solucion-a-problemas-de-honduras-juliette-handal.html>

Congress' president Mauricio Oliva will travel to Washington to discuss the electoral reforms with the OAS.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/oliva-viajara-a-la-oea-para-verificar-avances-de-reformas-electorales.html>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1232802-466/presidente-del-congreso-nacional-viaja-a-reunirse-con-la-oea>

UN experts will meet with the RNP's intervention commission to discuss a possible collaboration.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1232801-466/expertos-de-la-onu-llegan-a-apoyar-los-procesos-en-el-registro>

There may be changes coming to the setup of JOH's cabinet.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/hay-cuatro-o-cinco-ministros-que-no-trabajan-al-ritmo-del-presidente-antonio-rivera-callejas.html>

El Heraldo spoke with Japan's ambassador Norio Fukuta. According to him, Japan donated in the five last years some \$30 million to Honduras.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1232800-466/jap%C3%B3n-ha-donado-30-millones-de-d%C3%B3lares-en-los-%C3%BAltimos-cinco-a%C3%B1os>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/11/si-no-comiste-donde-don-tito-no-te-graduaste-en-la-u/>

12/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, Legacy; Mining - Guapinol; Hydroelectricity - Reitoca; Journalists; Corruption - Caja Chica, Congress; National Dialogue; Caravan; Repression; Armed Forces; IMF; RNP; and Welcome to Tecnópolis

Today, COPINH will host the forum "The Truth about the Berta Cáceres Case" at UNAH. It is a reaction to their exclusion from the trial and to present findings about the criminal structure that murdered Berta which the court did not want to look into. The forum will be live-streamed. COPINH published an interview with the lawyer Reynaldo Villalba Vargas, who forms part of the Expert Observation Mission of the Berta Cáceres Case.

https://www.facebook.com/events/324400351677692/?_fb_noscript=1

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/component/k2/item/2330-lo-que-el-sistema-de-justicia-intenta-ocultar-en-el-caso-de-berta-caceres>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/entrevista-villalba-vargas/>

Laura Zúniga spoke with AJ+ about the legacy of her mother Berta Cáceres.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/aj-espanol-el-legado-de-berta-caceres/>

The San Alonso Rodríguez Foundation (FSAR) denounces a defamation and criminalization campaign against their members on social media. The FSAR is a member of the Departmental Committee for the Defense of the Commons which has accompanied the inhabitants of Guapinol in their protest against the mining project by Inversiones Los Pinares.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/campana-de-difamacion-y-criminalizacion-contra-fundacion-san-alonso-rodriguez/>

Inhabitants of Reitoca, Francisco Morazán, traveled to the capital to protest outside the MP. They denounce that the JOH regime favors the interest of the company Progelsa over their right to a intact environment. While they complaints are ignored by the MP, a request by the company to criminalize members of the Indigenous Lenca Council of Reitoca got an immediate response by the MP.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/12/pobladores-de-reitoca-exigen-al-ministerio-publico-explique-favoritismo-hacia-empresa/>

Pasos de Animal Grande spoke with journalist Jairo López two days after his violent arrest in front of his wife and daughter (see Saturday's e-mail).

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2329-familia-enfrenta-la-zozobra-a-pocas-horas-de-la-captura-violenta-de-jairo-lopez>

ATIC arrested former public official Wilfredo Cerrato Durón who is accused of corruption as part of the newest case presented by the MACCIH, the caja chica del hermano. The judge trying the case, José Olivo Rodríguez, had been accused of corruption in the past. The CNA denounces a possible conflict of interest, even more as Olivo Rodríguez's case has not been resolved yet.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/12/capturan-a-wilfredo-cerrato-duron/>

<https://tiempo.hn/trasciende-captura-del-exadministrador-de-casa-presidencial-wilfredo-cerrato-padre/>

<https://tiempo.hn/jose-olivio-rodriguez-juez/>

In her newest edition of the Parliamentary Chronicles, Nincy Perdomo writes among other things about the reactivation of the Departmental Funds. Congress decided to equip them with a 400 million Lempiras budget, over 3 million per congresswo/men. A second corruption case involving Congress goes back some months, when some undue changes were made to the bill regulating the budget. The Nationalist secretary of Congress, Tomás Zambrano had already been acquitted, but yesterday the decision was ratified.

<http://elpulso.hn/cp-678-11-2018/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/confirman-sobreseimiento-para-directivo-del-congreso-y-formalizan-causa-a-diputado-por-fe-de-errata/>

<https://tiempo.hn/fe-de-erratas-tomas-zambrano/>

Radio Progreso published a critical overview of the discussions about a popular consultation. The article highlights the real intention of the National Party; they do not want to ask the people if they are in favor or against the presidential reelection, rather they just want them to regulate it and whitewash JOH's illegal reelection. There is also a growing fear, that it may come to an impunity pact between the National Party, the Liberal Party and Libre.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/propuesta-de-consulta-popular-busca-reglamentar-reeleccion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ajedrez-de-la-impunidad-asi-construyo-el-tripartidismo-el-acuerdo-para-gobernar-sin-alteraciones/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/analista-idolatria-del-evento-electoral-aleja-los-hondurenos-de-temas-prioritarios/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/padre-ismael-moreno-tilda-de-cachurecos-a-diputados-de-libre.html>

It has been a month, since the migrant caravan started its long journey north. By now in Guadalajara, Mexico, they demand that their exodus, which by now includes more than 10'000 people, will be considered a humanitarian crisis.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/12/exodo-migratorio-centroamericano-debe-ser-reconocido-como-crisis-humanitaria/>

Workers of the municipal crematory of La Ceiba were repressed by the police when they dared demanding their outstanding wages.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/12/gasean-a-trabajadores-del-crematorio-de-la-ceiba-que-exigen-pagos-de-salarios-atrasados/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/policias-desalojan-por-la-fuerza-a-recolectores-de-basura-en-la-ceiba.html>

According to El Libertador, Honduras will receive this week the drones bought from Israel.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3080-esta-semana-ejercito-hondureno-recibe-drones-comprados-a-israel>

An IMF delegation is currently in Honduras discussing a new agreement.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1233141-466/el-fondo-monetario-internacional-contin%C3%B3-en-la-revisi%C3%B3n-de-la-econom%C3%ADa-de>

El Heraldo reveals several instances when people illegally got access to the data base of the National Persons Registry (RNP). In once case, the US embassy in Honduras also got access.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1233143-466/funcionario-del-registro-nacional-de-las-personas-dio-base-de-datos-a>

<http://elpulso.hn/tecnopolis-2018-cna/>

13/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, EU; Caravan - Defamation; Political Prisoners; Militarization; Sexual Violence; National Dialogue; Political Opposition; Corruption - Caja Chica, de Lobo; Violence; Mayors; and Mining Deaths

Yesterday, the forum "The Truth about the Berta Cáceres Case" took place in a full lecture hall at UNAH. COPINH published three videos from the forum and accompanied with an informative Twitter stream. Human rights scholar Joaquín Mejía concludes about the Berta Cáceres case: "The cases of Blanca Jeannette Kawas, Carlos Antonio Luna, Carlos Escaleras Mejía, Margarita Murillo and Berta Cáceres, among others, are a reflection of that structural impunity that as a cancer has evicted the rule of law and its justice system, and that we, as citizens, must articulate the various efforts to eradicate it and build an inclusive and democratic nation."

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video-y-fotos-foro/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS>

<https://joaquinmejiaivera.blogspot.com/2018/11/el-cancer-de-la-impunidad.html>

32 EU Parliamentarians sent a public letter to JOH and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini expressing their concern regarding the Berta Cáceres trial. "The trial must be conducted in full respect of the principles of impartiality and access to justice. This case is key to the defense of human rights in Honduras and throughout the Latin American region." While international pressure seems to grow, the JOH regime and its allies at the Judicial Power continue to ignore their calls for due process. Journalist Nina Lakhani highlights the following: "last Wednesday we were told the #BertaCáceres murder trial was suspended until 9am today [Tuesday]. Turns out the case continued yesterday with a largely empty public gallery. We missed key phone evidence related to defendant Sergio Rodriguez, dam company communities manager. Why?" "Not just Rodriguez, we missed the phone evidence of several key defendants inc ex-security chief Geovanny Bustillo. It cannot be a coincidence that international observers & press were absent on the day evidence against an alleged mastermind & coordinator of the murder presented"

<https://redeulat.org/diputados-del-parlamento-europeo-muestran-preocupacion-ante-el-juicio-por-el-asesinato-berta-caceres/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/eurodiputados-preocupacion-juicio-bc/>

<https://twitter.com/ninalakhani/status/1062375872450232320>

<https://twitter.com/ninalakhani/status/1062378653110165504>

La Voz de los de Abajo published an English translation of the press release by the migrant caravan (see yesterday). Criterio published a chronology of the five migrant caravans that have started so far started in Central America in the last month.

https://hondurasresists.blogspot.com/2018/11/central-american-exodus-first-press_13.html?m=1

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/13/cronologia-de-las-caravanas-de-migrantes-un-mes-de-su-partida/>

Libre congressman Jari Dixon Herrera presented a complaint against the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, María Dolores Agüero, for her defamatory remarks against the journalist Bartolo Fuentes. She and other members of the JOH regime unconvincingly accused him of having organized the migrant caravan.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/13/presentan-querella-contra-canciller-por-acusaciones-contra-bartolo-fuentes/>

The political prisoner José Godínez was freed after having been detained for almost one year. Further good news may come from the national dialogue (see below).

<https://twitter.com/EdwinLibertad/status/1062554040268013569>

CELS published a report on how the war against drugs increased militarization in Latin America (hat-tip to Latin America Daily Briefing).

<https://www.cels.org.ar/militarizacion/pdf/laquerrainterna.pdf>

Vienna Herrera reports on rape in Honduras. The number of women who have suffered from it doubled in the last 10 years (with the unofficial numbers presumed even higher - CME estimates that only about 10% of the women denounce it), but the Honduran State continues to worsen the situation for these women, e.g. by prohibiting the access to emergency contraceptive pills (PAE).

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/11/13/violada-en-un-estado-ausente/>

The UN-facilitated national dialogue is about to end this Friday. Salvador Nasralla publicly stated that there will not be any "ground-breaking agreements". UN-representative Igor Garafulic is more optimistic and he reiterates that there is a draft bill for an amnesty for the political prisoners.

According to El Heraldo, the highly-discussed popular consultation will only include one question about the presidential reelection.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/sin-acuerdos-trascendentales-dialogo-politico-afirma-representacion-de-nasralla/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1233452-466/onu-un-plebiscito-solo-incluir%C3%ADa-la-reelecci%C3%B3n-presidencial>

The dialogue also led to a verbal fight between Xiomara Castro and Salvador Nasralla. She and Manuel Zelaya accuse him of playing the game of the US and that he helps whitewash the electoral fraud. He counters that Libre has failed to challenge the electoral fraud.

<https://tiempo.hn/xiomara-castro-salvador-nasralla/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/mel-y-xiomara-acusan-a-nasralla-de-rendirse-ante-eeuu-y-validar-resultados-de-elecciones.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/nasralla-a-xiomara-que-explique-que-ha-hecho-libre-para-aclarar-el-fraude-electoral/>

José Miguel Handal "Chepito" and his wife Ena Elizabeth Hernández were sentenced to 17 and 16 years in prison for money laundering. It is expected that Chepito will soon be extradited to the US for further questioning.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3082-honduras-17-anos-de-carcel-a-chepito-handal-por-lavado-de-activos-y-16-a-esposa>

<https://tiempo.hn/a-mas-de-16-anos-de-prision-condenan-a-chepe-handal-y-su-esposa-por-lavado-de-activos/>

The two main accused in the caja chica del hermano corruption case - the former public official Wilfredo Cerrato Durón and the brother of Pepe Lobo, Ramón Lobo Sosa - will have to await trial from home. Pepe Lobo reacted to this newest corruption case involving his family and his government by accusing the MACCIH of collusion with the JOH regime as they so seem to concentrate their efforts on the past government and not the current one.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/13/dictan-arresto-domiciliario-a-hermano-de-pepe-lobo-y-al-exadministrador-de-casa-presidencial/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/13/pepe-lobo-acusa-a-la-maccih-de-estar-coludida-con-el-gobierno-de-herandez/>

<https://tiempo.hn/pepe-lobo-gobierno-de-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/acusacion-contrami-hermano-es-un-show-para-tapar-grandes-casos-de-corrupcion-porfirio-lobo-sosa.html>

On Friday, the trial against Pepe Lobo's wife, Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo, continues.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1233437-466/presentan-69-medios-de-prueba-en-contrade-ex-primera-dama>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/imputados-en-caso-caja-chica-de-la-dama-a-audiencia-de-medios-de-prueba.html>

According to UNAH's Violence Observatory, 54.5% of the assassination having taken place in Honduras in the last seven years took the lives of Hondurans under 30.

<https://tiempo.hn/ov-unah-muertes-en-jovenes/>

The husband of Carmen Ramos, the mayor of Dolores, Copán was murdered. It is the second husband Ramos loses to violence.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/asesinan-a-esposo-de-alcaldesa-de-dolores-copan.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-asesinan-a-esposo-de-alcaldesa-de-dolores-en-copan/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/muertos-en-mina-olanchana-eran-menores-de-edad-y-trabajaban-en-condiciones-peligrosas/>

14/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Women Rights Femicide; Mining - Guapinol; Journalists; MACCIH; Caravan; US; RNP; Corruption - JOH; and the Dialogue Labored and Brought Forth a Mouse

The UN expert commission having visited Honduras for two weeks (see below), also commented on the Berta Cáceres trial: "A number of interlocutors expressed a great dissatisfaction with the trial for Berta Cáceres murder, including the members of her family. We heard that the family has been denied access to reports and evidence during the investigation phase, which lasted more than two years and was marred by numerous irregularities, and that the lawyers representing the family were excluded from the trial without being given a legitimate reason. This trial is emblematic of the lack of transparency and unfair legal processes faced by women's human rights defenders, which is of great concern to our Working Group. We urge the Government to take all the measures to secure justice for the family and ensure that the trial respects international standards. Any irregularities reflect badly on the judiciary which is already mistrusted for its lack of accountability in spite of the real efforts of the Supreme Court and other institutions to improve access to justice for women. Moreover, impunity for killings and other crimes committed against women fuel further violence against them."

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23873&LangID=E>

A UN expert commission visited Honduras for 14 days to investigate the human rights situation of women. They conclude that 'although there have been some advances, the Central American country remains "macho". Women are victims of "generalized violence" and inequality. In addition, they suffer from a lack of political representation.'

Their report made important comments on the situation of WHRDs: "Although Honduras has made efforts to establish an effective mechanism of protection for human rights defenders, there still seems to be little understanding of the specificities and needs of women human rights defenders and hurdles they face. All of the women we spoke to said they were not able to operate in a safe and enabling environment.²⁷ They told us that they face numerous attacks and threats, as well as criminalization of their activities and lack of access to justice. Stigmatization by officials, and also by their own organizations, families, communities and the media, not only disempowers them but also exposes them to heightened risks. They face smear campaigns aimed at discrediting their work, often being identified as being anti-development of Honduras, 'unnatural' mothers and wives or even criminals. One defender told us how not only had she been criminalized, attacked by members of her own community, but has been constantly harassed and insulted by members of her family for being a bad mother. With great passion she told us how even if she is riddled with pain and guilt, she is defending her land, which is being taken by an

agrobusiness, precisely because she is worried that her children will not have a future in her region; she thinks this makes her a good mother. We also received testimonies of women human rights defenders facing legal actions for defamation and slander, as well as the threat thereof. Others have reported that their organizations are subjected to unreasonable tax supervision and registration requirements. We are also told that women who are more vocal are at risk of harsher treatment, including excessive use of force and even murder."

<https://news.un.org/es/story/2018/11/1445741>

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23873&LangID=E>

During the visit of the expert commission, 13 Honduran women were murdered. According to the Violence Observatory, 309 femicide took place in Honduras so far this year.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3084-comite-de-onu-alarmado-por-asesinato-de-13-hondurenas-durante-su-visita>

<https://tiempo.hn/alarmante-a-309-ascienden-los-crime-nes-violentos-contra-mujeres-en-honduras/>

The Coalition against Impunity held a press conference on the situation in Guapinol after having visited the community. They conclude that "the concession of the extractive mining projects ASP 1 and ASP 2, granted in favor of the company Inversiones Pinares, owned by Mr. Lenir Pérez, is the product of irregular and corrupt legislative practices to favor territorial dispossession by private companies."

The press conference was accompanied by various people from the affected communities. Juana Zúniga, a member of the Commons Committee of Guapinol, denounced that soldiers are intimidating them and that the community is falsely presented as a vandals.

They demand a town hall meeting to declare the area free of mining. ConexiHon shines an important light on the difficulty of journalist reporting in such a context.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/14/coalicion-contra-la-impunidad-constata-terrible-violacion-de-derechos-humanos-en-el-guapinol-tocoa-colon/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/14/los-militares-nos-estan-intimidando-ambientalista-de-el-guapinol/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/14/nuestra-comunidad-esta-siendo-militarizada-como-si-fueramos-criminales-lideresa-de-el-guapinol/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/14/pobladores-de-el-guapinol-demandan-cabildo-abierto-para-declarar-a-tocoa-libre-de-mineria/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/867-periodistas-frente-a-la-imposicion-del-silencio>

Pasos de Animal Grande criticizes that the Journalists Association of Honduras (CPH) and the Honduran Press Association (APH) both did not comment on the attacks, threats and the following violent arrest of the journalist Jairo López. These two bodies are supposed to represent the interests of all journalists, not just those working for corporate media outlets, at the Protection Mechanism.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2333-cph-y-aph-decidieron-guardar-silencio-en-el-caso-del-periodista-jairo-lopez>

The fifth MACCIH report is now also accessible to the public. It looks at the period of April 19 to October 19, 2018.

The MACCIH recommends depoliticizing the MP and the Judicial Power as well as strengthening UFECIC.

Reporteros de Investigación criticizes that the MACCIH has so far failed to comment on the nomination of th judge responsible for its newest corruption case, caja chica del hermano. The judge in question, José Olivio Rodríguez Vásquez, has an open corruption charge against him

dating back to 2016.

<https://www.oas.org/documents/spa/press/Quinto-Informe-Semestral-MACCIH-Oct-2018-ESP.pdf>

<https://tiempo.hn/maccih-quinto-informe-despolitizacion-mp-poder-judicial/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/fortalecer-ufecic-y-nuevo-proyecto-de-ley-de-colaboracion-destaca-maccih-en-informe.html>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/11/14/magistrado-denunciado-por-corrupcion-ante-oea-maccih-juzga-caso-caja-chica-del-hermano/>

Reporting on the migrant caravan, InSight Crime writes that it "has changed its intended route to avoid the Texas-Mexico border — a move that shows even such a large group remains vulnerable to powerful criminal organizations operating in Mexico. The caravan now aims to reach the United States by way of Tijuana, instead of through the Mexican state of Tamaulipas, which borders Texas, the Los Angeles Times reported. The migrants, which left Honduras in October, have rerouted onto the much longer but safer path toward California, to avoid one of the most dangerous Mexican states for migrants."

The Trump administration, meanwhile, continues to further militarize its borders.

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/migrant-caravan-mexico-changes-course-dangers-still-lurk/>

<http://elpulso.hn/ee-uu-refuerza-seguridad-en-la-frontera-a-la-espera-de-caravana-de-migrantes/>

Natalie Roque Sandoval published an important comment on Trump's threats to cut US aid to Honduras concluding: "We live in a huge tragedy and it is partly thanks to US aid. While some US aid also has come with a more palliative character, nevertheless, compared to the damage caused, it is a band aid on massive wounds. And the corrupted governments steal a great deal (That is correctly stated by Trump). It is necessary to make a balance and compare the numbers. However, I still think that there is no "aid" that can pay back the many blows and so much spilled blood."

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/196523>

ConfidencialHN reports on further irregularities at the RNP. Its intervention committee will travel to Washington to meet with the OAS and at the end of this month, a EU mission will come to Honduras to advise them.

<https://confidencialhn.com/rnp-vendio-bases-de-datos-confidenciales-a-empresas-de-telefonía-y-sistema-financiero/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1233807-466/registro-nacional-de-las-personas-busca-corregir-las-diferencias-en-la-base>

JOH and his allies reacted to the accusations by Pepe Lobo regarding corruption in the JOH administration.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/nadie-esta-por-encima-de-la-ley-los-presidentes-tenemos-limitaciones-por-ley-y-por-principios-hernandez.html>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1233816-410/-juan-orlando-hernandez-pepe-lobo-lamenta-incomodos-ramon-lobo-corrupcion-expresidente>

<https://tiempo.hn/marvin-ponce-joh-es-el-unico-presidente-que-ha-sacado-los-casos-de-corrupcion-de-honduras/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/y-parieron-un-raton-14-de-noviembre-2018/>

15/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, DESA; Mining - Guapinol; Caravan - US, Children; Women's Rights; Journalists; LGBTI; Liberal Party; Political Opposition; National Dialogue, Drug Trafficking; Corruption - de Lobo; and Drunk Uncle Sam

NACLA published a welcome overview in English by Jackie McVicar about the Berta Cáceres trial. "The trial against Berta Cáceres' accused assassins has been riddled with irregularities and bias—and barred the victims' lawyers from participation. It is a tragic lost opportunity for justice in Honduras."

A similar overview, but in Spanish, was written by Fernando Silva for ContraCorriente.

The trial continues this morning at 9am.

<https://nacla.org/news/2018/11/15/flouted-justice-bertha>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/11/15/caso-bertha-caceres-las-victimas-que-el-estado-prefiere-ignorar/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/juicio-sobre-bertha-caceres-continua-el-viernes-con-escuchas-telefonicas-de-involucrados.html>

Omar Menjivar Rosales concentrates in his article on the role of DESA. "Thus, using this criminal mixture between private operators and state officials and servants, that criminal structure called DESA, which has a legal facade as a mercantile society, planned and executed the murder of Berta Cáceres and they are sure that they will go unpunished. But they did not count with the determination of the people that Berta defended and that of millions of people in the world who are determined to demand here and wherever, for whatever period of time, and until it is realized, their right to the truth, to justice, to non-repetition and punishment for murderers."

DESA, through its PR representative Amsterdam & Partners LLP, started a new defamatory campaign against COPINH.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/honduras-y-los-asesinos-de-bertha/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1234109-466/apoderados-de-desa-ven-fallos-en-caso-de-bertha-c%C3%A1ceres>

Front Line Defenders denounces the smear campaign against Fundación San Alonso Rodríguez (FSAR) and its director Juana Esquivel (see also Tuesday's e-mail). FSAR has accompanied the local protest in Guapinol against the mining project by Lenir Pérez.

C-Libre and Pasos de Animal Grande report that the journalist Rigoberto Mendoza was cited by the police to give his declarations about the situation in Guapinol. Mendoza recently denounced that he had been threatened for his work reporting on the protests.

<https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/case/smear-campaign-against-fundacion-san-alonso-rodriguez-and-its-director-juana-esquivel>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/preocupa-a-front-line-defenders-campana-de-desprestigio-contra-miembros-de-fundacion-san-alonso-rodriguez/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/intimidacion/925-periodista-extranamente-citado-por-policia-de-investigacion-para-declarar-sobre-el-conflicto-minero>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2336-mas-presiones-contra-periodista-rigoberto-mendoza-que-conflicto-minero-en-guapinol>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2338-defensora-de-guapinol-nuestros-padres-y-abuelos-nunca-necesitaron-de-una-minera-para-vivir-dignamente>

Criterion reports that a first group of 1500 migrants arrived at the US border.

Jackie McVicar spoke with Honduran journalist Bartolo Fuentes and HRD Joaquin Mejia about why Hondurans flee their country and joined the migrant caravan.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/15/unos-1500-migrantes-llegan-a-la-frontera-con-estados-unidos/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/tijuana-se-apresta-para-albergar-durante-meses-a-migrantes-centroamericanos.html>

<https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2018/11/07/why-are-so-many-people-fleeing-honduras>

A further analysis of the push-factors comes from Juan Almendarez. "The purpose of this essay is to point out two aspects of reality that are related to migration, the first one refers to peasant, indigenous and Garífuna communities, linked to the territories and aspiring to defend their social and political spaces in front of capitalist accumulation by dispossession; on the other hand, a new phenomenon in Honduras is the massive, collective migrations of sectors that do not endure the conditions of exploitation and social inequality in the countryside and that migrate to the cities to emigrate mainly to the United States of America. In this way, we place this problem in the geopolitical framework of the US military occupation of Honduras."

The US chargé d'affaires, meanwhile, launched a new social media campaign asking Hondurans to stay in or to return to Honduras.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/196558>

<https://tiempo.hn/fulton-emigrantes-pueden-regresar-a-honduras-mediante-el-plan-retorno-seguro-implementado-por-el-gobierno/>

CRISTOSAL and Casa Alianza published a report on the situation of children in the Northern Triangle who face forced displacement. "The report highlights that the main problem for the forced migration of children and adolescents is caused by poverty and violence, the latter by the control exercised by gangs and drug trafficking."

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/ninez-de-c-a-severamente-afectada-por-la-violencia-pobreza-y-narcotrafico/>

Defensores en Línea spoke with women human rights defender Alda Facio about the responsibility of the Honduran State to ensure the non-violation of women's rights. Honduras' media outlets picked up the report by the expert mission on women's rights (see yesterday).

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-estado-tiene-la-obligacion-de-que-violaciones-a-ddhh-de-las-mujeres-no-queden-impunes/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/15/grupo-de-la-onu-senala-que-crisis-migratoria-de-honduras-nace-de-violencia-pobreza-y-falta-de-oportunidades/>

The TSE rejected a complaint by LGBTI organizations against the former PAC presidential candidate Marlene Alvarenga for using hate speech during her campaign.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/tse-niega-recurso-a-comunidad-lgtbi-contra-marlene-alvarenga.html>

The Supreme Court rejected a second appeal by the board members of the Social Security Institute for Journalists (IPP), who have been trying for months to withhold information from the public.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/15/corte-falla-contra-ocultamiento-en-ente-de-pensiones-de-periodistas/>

The internal dispute of the Liberal Party continues. Luis Zelaya now officially requested the expulsion of Elvin Santos, the head of the Liberal Party in Congress. The party's disciplinary tribunal will decide

on the case on November 21.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/15/luis-zelaya-pide-la-expulsion-de-elvin-santos-ante-tribunal-disciplinario-del-partido-liberal/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/elvin-cuestiona-conducta-de-luis-da-mucho-que-decir-de-su-calidad-como-persona-orare-por-el/>

The dispute between Nasralla and Libre also continues with Manuel Zelaya claiming that they had handed over the ballots proofing the electoral fraud to the OAS.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mel-jura-tener-pruebas-de-victoria-de-nasralla-no-las-entregara-a-ebal/>

UN representative Igor Garafulic announced a final report on the national dialogue for today.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1234108-466/la-onu-dar%C3%A1-este-viernes-informe-final-sobre-el-di%C3%A1logo-pol%C3%ADtico>

Currently, the trial against Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán takes place in New York. Already on the second day of the trial, information pertinent to Honduras came to light. Guzmán's lawyer testified that a witness already in the hands of the US had sent to kill a Honduran public prosecutor and he was also involved in an assassination plan of a former Honduran president.

The lawyer also said that bribes were paid to a Honduran president. Manuel Zelaya demands the extradition of the witness.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/15/abogado-de-el-chapo-declara-que-narco-colombiano-mando-a-matar-a-fiscal-hondureno/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/15/revelan-en-corte-de-nueva-york-que-cartel-de-sinaloa-pago-soborno-a-un-presidente-de-honduras/>

<https://tiempo.hn/mel-zelaya-ee-uu-debe-extraditar-a-todos-los-mencionados-en-juicio-del-chapo-guzman/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1234159-410/cartel-de-sinaloa-salpica-a-honduras-en-corte-de-nueva-york>

Yesterday, the trial against the former first lady continued.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1234120-466/rosa-elena-de-lobo-y-su-defensa-analizan-pruebas-halladas-en-su>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/opiniones/870-el-tio-sam-se-emborracha-en-santa-fe>

16/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Journalists; Mining - Guapinol; CCC; Violence; Caravan - UN; Corruption - Congress; National Dialogue - Electoral Reforms; Drug Trafficking; Public Health; Penitentiary System; Catholic Church; and Because I Could

As the judicial farce that is the Berta Cáceres case continues, the Expert Observation Mission of the Berta Cáceres Case felt compelled to publish another press release in a bit more than a week. They express their "deep concern that on November 12th a hearing took place without previously informing the victims of the case, which adds to a series of irregularities that have been denounced since the beginning of the process". In yesterday's hearing, the focus was on the phone records of the accused. TN5 reports that the phone records showed that Mariano Díaz Chávez knew about the assassination plan. The trial will continue this morning.

<https://www.fidh.org/es/region/americas/honduras/honduras-organizaciones-miembros-de-la-mision-de-obsevacion>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/4763/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1234132-410/implicados-caso-berta-caceres-crimen-ambientalista-honduras->

<https://twitter.com/TN5Telenoticias/status/1063269911391277056>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1234385-466/este-s%C3%A1bado-sigue-el-juicio-del-caso-bertha-c%C3%A1ceres>

Pasos de Animal Grande continues to cover the difficult situation of the journalist Jairo López who is being persecuted and criminalized by the JOH regime.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2339-el-calvario-de-un-periodista-acusado-injustamente>

Inhabitants of Nueva Frontera, Santa Bárbara, declared their territory free of mining in a town hall meeting on Thursday.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/ratifican-como-territorio-libre-de-proyectos-extractivos-a-nueva-frontera-santa-barbara/>

Radio Progreso speaks with the Jesuit priest Gregorio Vásquez about the situation in Guapinol.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/6780-2/>

The Alignment against the Reelection (CCC) starts its popular consultation process in San José, La Paz. Accompanied by CEHPRODEC, they will ask four questions, e.g. if JOH should stay in power or if the extractive development model should be followed in Honduras.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/pese-a-obstaculos-la-consulta-popular-se-realizara-este-18-de-noviembre-en-san-jose/>

Casa Alianza documented the murder of 50 Hondurans below 23 in October.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/casa-alianza-reporta-50-muertes-de-menores-de-23-anos-durante-octubre.html>

JOH called out to the UN to urgently assist them in coordinating the "complete cycle of the migration phenomenon".

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/16/honduras-exige-a-la-onu-atender-urgentemente-el-ciclo-completo-de-la-migracion/>

According to the Finance Minister Rocío Tábora, the disputed departmental funds for congresswomen is not part of the 2019 budget.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/fondo-departamental-no-esta-en-anteproyecto-que-envio-ejecutivo-ni-en-revision-que-se-esta-haciendo.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/presupuesto-del-2019-no-contempla-fondo-social-departamental-finanzas/>

Once more, the National Dialogue had to be prolonged. UN representative Igor Garafulic had previously announced that it would end on November 16, there are still unfinished discussions in five areas. These discussions will be taken up again on November 26 and the dialogue should conclude in December.

Political analyst Víctor Meza is very skeptical about its outcome.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/a-pausa-el-dialogo-con-cinco-temas-pendientes-y-se-preve-concluya-en-diciembre.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/16/de-dialogos-y-reformas-inconclusas/>

Transparency International and the Association for a more Just Society held a forum on electoral reforms in Tegucigalpa.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/honduras-esta-en-el-momento-justo-para-hacer-reformas-electorales-dice-presidenta-de-ti.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/perros-falderos-garantizar-transparencia/>

Honduras' coup president Roberto Micheletti Baín felt compelled to publicly announce that he is not the president mentioned by the defense of Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán in the trial currently taking place in the US (see yesterday).

<https://tiempo.hn/roberto-micheletti-sobre-senalamientos-defensa-el-chapo/>

The former UNAH dean and now head of the intervention commission of Honduras public health system, Julieta Castellanos, denied to comment on the situation at the University Hospital. Her nomination was criticized as it was feared that she would not properly investigate the institution she had been responsible for for many years.

<https://tiempo.hn/julieta-castellanos-se-rehusa-a-hablar-sobre-crisis-denunciada-en-el-hospital-escuela/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/interventora-de-salud-rehusa-hablar-de-crisis-en-el-hospital-escuela/>

Once more, inmates have been move from one prison to another. In total, this took place 21 times this year affecting almost 1100 inmates.

<https://confidencialhn.com/1reubican-presos-de-el-pozo-en-carcel-de-tamara/>

ConfidencialHN denounces that also the Catholic Church in Honduras hides and protects priest accused of sexual abuse.

<https://confidencialhn.com/iglesia-hondurena-oculta-y-protege-a-sacerdotes-acusados-por-abusos-sexuales/>

<https://tiempo.hn/reo-asegura-que-se-fugo-del-pozo-porque-asi-lo-decidio/>

17/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Extractivism - FPIC; Caravan - Political Opposition, Remittances; National Dialogue - Political Prisoners; National Party; and the Ongoing Militarization of Children

COPINH published a statement by Gustavo Castro on the trial that should bring justice to Berta and his case. "It is clear to me that this trial is not only illegal, it is a farce, an illegally convened trial, a rejected court, a court without sufficient witnesses, without publicity, without victims, without relatives, without lawyers, without resolving amparos, locked up with greater repression, with more dead." Additionally, COPINH published an info-graphic of the criminal structure behind Berta's assassination.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/gustavo-castro-tambien-denuncia-la-farsa-del-primer-juicio/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/estructura-criminal/>

Social movements from the Americas met in Guatemala for three days to "discuss and analyze the current processes of misusing the consultation of our peoples and build collective strategies to unify criteria in the defense of common and natural goods and condemn once again the ruses

mounted by corporate corporations and the role played by states."

<http://movimientom4.org/2018/11/declaratoria-del-v-encuentro-m4-manipulacion-de-la-consulta-y-consentimiento-a-favor-del-extractivismo/>

<http://movimientom4.org/2018/11/carta-a-ongs-amigas-y-centros-de-derechos-humanos-que-apoyan-la-defensa-de-los-territorios-en-relacion-al-instrumento-de-las-consultas/>

Sandra Cuffe portrays two Libre activists and their son who fled Honduras as part of the migrant caravan. "It was the day of the 2017 general elections in Honduras when unknown men approached Obedi Miranda and her husband, Allan Escobar, two opposition Libre party activists. "They told us to leave, or else," Miranda said this week, sitting on a couch in a corner of a migrant and refugee shelter just after arriving in Tijuana."

<https://www.aljazeera.com/amp/news/2018/11/leave-honduran-family-fleeing-181117175706623.html>

Radio Progreso reports on the dual character of remittances. "That is, migrants in Honduras not only support their families financially, they also support politicians and private companies. Those same sectors that are responsible for their expulsion from their own land. Remittances support this expulsion regime."

<http://wp.radioprogresohn.net/remesas-17-de-noviembre-2018/>

UN Honduras published a press release on the national dialogue whose end was postponed once more on Friday (see yesterday's e-mail). UN representative Igor Garafulic defended the dialogue in front of the public. The areas in which agreements have been found will now be further discussed in Congress.

<https://twitter.com/ONUHN/status/1063852378716286976>

<https://tiempo.hn/igor-garafulic-valio-la-pena-dialogo/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/temas-inconclusos-en-dialogo-politico-pasan-a-debate-al-mas-alto-nivel-senala-igor-garafulic.html>

One key obstacle to conclude the dialogue is the ongoing unwillingness of the JOH regime to recognize the situation of the political prisoners.

<https://confidencialhn.com/garafulic-busca-que-fuerzas-politicas-concreten-acuerdos-a-pesar-del-fracaso-en-dialogo/>

The public dispute between the current and former Nationalist presidents continues. Pepe Lobo now accuses the JOH regime of hiding from the public because he convened the gathering of the National Party in Gracias.

<https://confidencialhn.com/pepe-cuestiona-que-nacionalistas-se-vayan-a-esconder-a-convencion-de-gracias/>

<https://tiempo.hn/pepe-lobo-nacionalistas-quieren-esconderse/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/nacionalistas-se-preparan-para-preconvencion-en-medio-de-fricciones-entre-pepe-y-joh/>

According to La Tribuna, over 9000 Honduran children participated so far in the internationally criticized militarization program Guards of the Fatherland.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/17/mas-de-9000-menores-ahora-son-guardianes-de-la-patria/>

18/11/18

Honduras Daily: CCC; Mining; Caravan - Climate Change; MP; Fiscal Policy - Poverty; Violence; National Dialogue; RNP; and Mexican Weddings

The Alignment against the Reelection (CCC) started its process of popular consultations. The first 'Citizen Consultation' took place yesterday in San José, La Paz. Bertha Oliva summarized it as follows: "This is not a partisan plebiscite against anyone, it is a political act of the people in favor of democracy and life."

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/primer-consulta-popular/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/de-la-consulta-local-a-la-opinion-nacional/>

During the proceedings in San José, the inhabitants decided to declare their community free of mining.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/18/san-jose-de-la-paz-se-declara-libre-de-mineria-y-extractivismo/>

In a summit in Guatemala, JOH recognizes climate change as a driver of migration but he did not mention any of the more structural factors. Rather he used the occasion to once more attack the non-existing organizers of the migrant caravan.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/18/el-cambio-climatico-genera-migracion-en-honduras-segun-hernandez/>

<https://tiempo.hn/segun-joh-caravana-de-migrantes-origina-cambio-climatico-y-bajos-precios-del-cafe/>

Civil society organizations demand from the Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla that he informs about emblematic corruption cases as well as unresolved assassinations. They mention explicitly the IHSS case and the Berta Cáceres case.

In a TV interview, Chinchilla said that the MP will soon present new corruption cases. Proceso Digital printed the complete interview.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/18/exigen-a-fiscal-general-informar-sobre-casos-emblematicos/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/lucha-contr-el-crimen-no-se-detiene-fiscal-chinchilla.html>

OXFAM and CLASCO published a new report on captured states in Latin America and how their fiscal policy increases inequality and poverty.

<https://www.oxfam.org/en/node/9466>

According to the FAO, 22% of Honduran children are chronically undernourished while 56% of the adults are overweight.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1234884-410/-honduras-ni%C3%B1os-desnutricion-cronica-infantil-obesidad->

JOPRODEH denounces that 1430 young Hondurans have been murdered so far this year. They do not specify the age, but in most cases young means either below 30 or below 23.

According to Proceso Digital, 15 people were murdered in Honduras on Sunday.

<https://tiempo.hn/mas-1400-jovenes-asesinados-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/mas-de-una-docena-de-muertes-violentas-se-reportan-este-domingo-en-honduras.html>

El Heraldo reports on some of the agreements that were apparently found during the national dialogue.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1234872-466/pol%C3%ADticos-a-favor-de-crear-tribunal-constitucional-en-honduras>

According to the coordinator of the intervention commission of the RNP, the institution amassed no less than 1.6 million inconsistencies in its databases.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1234876-466/tramitadores-tras-bot%C3%ADn-de-8000-millones-de-lempiras-en-el-rnp>

<https://tiempo.hn/caravana-de-migrantes-celebran-bodas-lgbti/>

19/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, Defamation; HRDs; Corruption - Impunity Pact, MACCIH; Caravan - LGBTI; CCC; Journalists; Public Health; Penitentiary System; RNP; Liberal Party; and a Torn Opposition

Journalist Nina Lakhani published a helpful summary of last week's hearings and the presented evidence.

COPINH published two videos, once from Berta herself, the other one from Gustavo Castro.

<https://twitter.com/ninalakhani/status/1064264900774674433>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video-bera-denuncio-las-agresiones-sistematicas-de-desa-en-su-contr/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video-gustavo-castro-una-de-las-victimas-en-la-causa-bera-caceres/>

OFRANEH denounces that international law firm Amsterdam and Partners LLP contracted by DESA is responsible for a "post-mortem lynching" of Berta Cáceres with their defamation campaign.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/11/19/linchamiento-post-morten-de-bera-caceres-y-la-ausencia-de-un-estado-de-derecho-en-honduras/>

Amnesty International launched a "global call to protect human rights defenders everywhere".

<https://www.fidh.org/en/issues/human-rights-defenders/join-the-global-call-to-protect-human-rights-defenders-everywhere>

UFECIC and the MACCIH initiated the prosecution of congresswo/men Antonio Cesar Rivera and Sara Ismela Medina Galo, both from the National Party, in the so-called Impunity Pact case. It goes back to a controversial change to the law regulating the budget on January 18 this year which aimed to protect corrupt officials from investigations. The accused claim their innocence.

https://www.oas.org/es/centro_noticias/comunicado_prensa.asp?sCodigo=C-070/18

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/19/presentan-requerimiento-fiscal-contra-ono-rivera-y-sara-medina-por-caso-pacto-de-impunidad/>

<https://tiempo.hn/nacionalistas-aseguran-que-el-mp-actua-de-forma-errada-en-caso-fe-de-erratas/>

Former president Pepe Lobo sent a warning against the MACCIH. "In the political sphere things will start to heat up and suddenly an organization that comes with the spirit of helping will get entangled in a political campaign..."

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/pepe-lobo-critica-que-solo-se-senalan-actos-de-corrupcion-en-su-gestion-presidencial.html>

El Pulso spoke with the photojournalist Whitney Godoy, who has

accompanied these last week the migrant caravan from San Pedro Sula to Tijuana.

<http://elpulso.hn/whitney-godoy-una-mirada-sobre-la-caravana-migrante/>

Sandhills Express published another article on the members of the LGBTI community having fled Honduras as part of the migrant caravan.

http://sandhillsexpress.com/abc_world/threat-of-violence-at-home-spurs-lgbt-migrants-on-to-the-border-abcid36130637/

Defensores en Línea published additional material on the first public consultation held by the Alignment against the Reelection (CCC) in a series of consultations to come (see also yesterday).

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/comunicado-de-prensa-conjunto-la-consulta-como-un-derecho-humano/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/un-no-rotundo-al-regimen-de-joh-y-al-modelo-extractivista-arrojan-resultados-de-consulta/>

Wenceslao Canales, director of one of the news outlets in Tocoa, Colón, denounces that "the State of Honduras has become the orchestra director for the journalistic agenda of some media outlets, since only the bearers of the state discourse get access to important resources and sources".

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2341-denuncia-comunicador-social-estado-es-el-director-de-la-orquesta-para-la-agenda-periodistica>

Reporteros de Investigación published an article on another kind of migration, the one towards the El Salvadorian public health system. Between 2013 and 2017, El Salvador's public hospital attended over 100'000 foreigners, 97% of which were from Honduras and Guatemala.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/11/19/caravana-invisible-de-honduras-hacia-hospitales-de-el-salvador-por-mejor-atencion/>

JOH created another special force, the National Force for the Control of the Penitentiaries (FNCCP).

<https://confidencialhn.com/crean-fuerza-nacional-de-control-de-centros-penitenciarios/>

EU experts arrived in Honduras yesterday to assist the intervention of the RNP.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/expertos-de-ue-llegan-a-honduras-para-acompanar-trabajo-registro-de-personas.html>

The TSE rejected a petition by the Liberal Party to have 17 of its congresswo/men expelled from the party.

<https://tiempo.hn/partido-liberal-no-expulsion-deiputados/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/tse-rechaza-solicitud-de-expulsion-contra-17-diputados-liberales/>

Martin Cálix published a critical commentary on the public disputes of the political opposition while the Honduran people would be in the need of a united front against the JOH regime. He concludes: "We can only hope that the popular movement, that all of take to the streets to change this system once and for all, because through the polls, we have no hope."

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/11/19/una-oposicion-desgarrada-frente-a-un-pueblo-desterrado/>

20/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs; IACtHR - Coup d'état; Caravan - US; Corruption - Congress, Caja Chica; Democracy; Public Health; JOH; and Honduras' Land

COPINH published a ten-point summary of the Berta Cáceres trial painting an accurate and, therefore, very grim picture.

Radio Progreso highlights the common violation of due process in Honduras using the Berta Cáceres case as an example.

Rodil Vásquez, a lawyer representing Berta's family, denounces the MP as a "guarantor of impunity" and according to him, there exist sufficient proof to go after the intellectual authors since May 2016.

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/que-ha-pasado-en-el-primer-juicio-de-la-causa-berta-caceres/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/un-ejemplo-de-la-vulneracion-del-debido-proceso-en-el-caso-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/advierten-existencia-de-chats-que-evidencian-estructura-criminal-que-liquido-a-berta-caceres/>

The Coalition against Impunity held a forum on the new Penal Code and its application to persecute and criminalize HRDs.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3090-honduras-nuevo-codigo-penal-endurece-caceria-de-activistas-sociales>

The IACtHR approved the agreement found between the Honduran State and the family of the murdered environmental defender Carlos Escaleras Mejía. "Under the agreement reached between the parties, the Court approved the agreed reparation measures. Among other measures, the State must transmit the documentary created about the life and work of Carlos Escaleras Mejía as a human rights activist, continue to implement the process of training in environmental issues for secondary school teachers, comply with the terms agreed in the trust constituted in favor of the children of Carlos Escaleras Mejía in order to guarantee their secondary and university education, carry out and diligently pursue all the investigations and actions necessary to determine responsibilities, as well as fully clarify the facts and, where appropriate, judge and punish the material and intellectual authors."

http://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/comunicados/cp_49_18.pdf?fbclid=IwAR05TIYTudgGNAYA3Y76P6j-4kXiUzwZPYIBqMee9f_gFaXpb_ZNSxGDyo0

Criterio reports that with the compliance with the López Lone et al. case, the Honduran State recognized that a coup d'état took place in Honduras in 2009. In this case, a Honduran judge and a magistrate recently were given back their positions in the Honduran judiciary, a position they had been illegally fired from after the coup.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/20/con-sentencia-lopez-lone-y-otros-justicia-de-honduras-reconoce-que-en-el-2009-hubo-un-golpe-de-estado/>

Giorgio Trucchi reports on the difficult situation of the Honduran migrants arriving in Tijuana facing a defamation and criminalization campaign from the Trump administration as well as from the mayor of Tijuana. Trucchi also spoke with the journalist Bartolo Fuentes who had to flee Honduras facing criminal persecution from the JOH regime for having accompanied and reported on the migrant caravan.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/196653>

"A federal judge on Monday ordered the Trump administration to resume accepting asylum claims from migrants no matter where or how they entered the United States, dealing at least a temporary setback to the president's attempt to clamp down on a huge wave of Central Americans crossing the border."

"Donald Trump is poised to start withdrawing troops from the US-Mexico border as early as this week, according to a report that prompted instant criticism that their deployment was a political stunt."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/20/us/judge-denies-trump-asylum-policy.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/20/un-juez-prohibe-que-la-casa-blanca-deniegue-asilo-a-migrantes/>

<https://tiempo.hn/temporalmente-donald-trump-no-puede-negar-el-asilo-a-inmigrantes-segun-un-juez/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/nov/19/trump-ready-to-begin-drawdown-of-troops-at-us-mexico-border>

Radio Progreso reports on the controversy about the departmental funds for congresswomen. After a public outcry of its reintroduction, Nationalist congresswo/men now claim that the funds have not been approved. But according to the sociologist Julio Navarro, the fund has never really disappeared and is now in the hands of the executive.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/fondo-social-departamental-no-fue-aprobado-dicen-diputados-oficialistas/>

The list of accusations in the Caja Chica del Hermano corruption case against Wilfredo Francisco Cerrato Duron and Ramón Lobo Sosahas further grown.

The former president Pepe Lobo, the brother of the accused, denounces a campaign against the National Party and its leaders.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/20/amplian-requerimiento-contra-hermano-de-pepe-lobo-y-wilfredo-cerrato/>

<https://tiempo.hn/delitos-de-fraude-y-malversacion-de-caudales-publicos/>

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/20/es-preocupante-lo-que-estamos-viviendo-a-todos-los-lideres-del-pn-lobo-sosa/>

Thelma Mejía comments on the findings of Latinobarómetro regarding the decreasing support for democracy in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/20/asi-estamos-asi-vamos/>

The former human rights secretary Ana Pineda challenged the controversial Special Commission for the Transformation of the National Health System, created by JOH, in the name of the Medical Association of Honduras (CMH). In an interview with Criterio, Pineda speaks about the importance of this challenge.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/20/impugnan-ante-la-corte-la-creacion-de-comision-de-salud/>

JOH claims that he and his government has suffered direct physical attacks as well as attacks through the media, "mainly the alternative [media] like social networks".

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-revela-que-han-sufrido-ataques-directos-de-la-criminalidad-organizada/>

<http://elpulso.hn/riqueza-hn-2/>

21/11/18

Honduras Daily: HRDs - Penal Code, EU; LGBTI; Repression; Journalists; Inequality; Corruption - Business, Congress; Violence; ENEE; Churches; Public Transport; Liberal Party; and Netflix's Cocaine Coast

Defensores en Línea has an update on the criminalization of four HRDs at ADEPZA who are being criminalized for their work in defense of the land

in Playa Blanca on Zacate Grande.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/continua-la-criminalizacion-por-la-defensa-de-la-tierra-en-playa-blanca/>

Criterio published additional information on the recent forum on the new Penal Code and its possible misuse to criminalize HRDs.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/20/codigo-penal-de-honduras-ha-sido-disenado-contra-los-pobres-y-el-movimiento-social/>

"In the EU, export controls are a regulatory tool to allow government agencies to control the proliferation of "dual-use" tools and technologies. In September 2016 the EU Commission published its draft proposal for an improved export controls regime, seeking to modernise and simplify the existing system to limit the spread of technology used for surveillance. After the promising position of the European Parliament, member states are attempting to block curbs on the export of surveillance equipment to abusive regimes. The attempts of the Council to undermine the reform could threaten human rights around the world."

<https://www.accessnow.org/eu-member-states-are-watering-down-spyware-regulation/>

The IACHR asks its member state to protect the lives of trans people.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/872-cidh-llama-a-los-estados-a-proteger-integralmente-la-vida-de-las-personas-trans>

State security members violently repressed a protest in Choluteca against Congress and its president who comes from the region. Congress is currently holding sessions in the city as part of its "Mobile Congress" program. CIPRODEH denounces that an 18-year old protester was shot in the foot by a soldier.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/21/militares-habrian-herido-de-bala-a-joven-durante-protesta-en-choluteca/>

<https://tiempo.hn/personas-heridas-deja-enfrentamiento-entre-manifestantes-y-policias-en-choluteca/>

Pasos de Animal Grande denounces that the journalist Walter Ulloa has been followed the last 15 days. It all started when he reported on the Socorro Las Peñitas mine at the beginning of this month.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2342-periodista-bajo-seguimiento-de-carros-desconocidos-despues-de-hablar-sobre-minera>

Radio Progreso reports on the consequences of inequality in Honduras, where five men/families possess \$8.6 billion, i.e. about the national budget of the whole country.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/buscando-una-explicacion-a-la-violencia-en-honduras/>

The Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) and Revistazo.com launched a website compiling information about more than 200'000 business established in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/21/honduras-lanzan-herramienta-que-permitira-seguirle-la-pista-a-empresas/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/21/asj-presenta-herramienta-digital-para-promover-la-transparencia-y-acceso-a-la-informacion/>

ASJ also denounces irregularities in Congress when approving contracts for electric energy production in 2014.

<https://confidencialhn.com/paraestatal-asj-denuncia-supuestos-ilicitos-cometidos-en-el-legislativo/>

Defensores en Línea published additional information about the newest report by Casa Alianza's Observatory of the Right of Children and Youth. They documented 74 murders of Hondurans under 30 in October.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/casa-alianza-en-octubre-se-registraron-74-muertes-violentas-de-jovenes/>

Former ENEE employee's in San Pedro Sula filed a complaint against its director Jesús Mejía for having failed to pay their outstanding wages.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/21/gerente-de-la-enee-recibe-nueva-denuncia-por-no-pagarle-a-empleados/>

Congress' Nationalist president Mauricio Oliva wants a constitutional change to allow religious leaders to run for office. Libre rejects the idea denouncing that it violates the concept of the secular state.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/21/mauricio-oliva-pide-reforma-constitucional-para-que-religiosos-opten-a-cargos-de-eleccion-popular/>

<https://tiempo.hn/mauricio-oliva-presenta-proyecto-para-que-pastores-y-ministro-de-fe-participen-en-politica/>

On December 1, public transport fares will rise once again.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3091-otro-tarifazo-nacional-transporte-publico-mas-carro-en-honduras>

The internal dispute at the Liberal Party continues and it is still unclear if they will expel 17 of their own congresswo/men.

<https://tiempo.hn/liberales-no-acudieron-citacion-ccepl-declarados-rebeldia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/tribunal-disciplinario-del-partido-liberal-decidira-si-expulsan-a-diputados-rebeldes/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/aseguran-que-hay-suficiente-carga-probatoria-contradiputados-rebeldes/>

"Relying on a formula that has become an entertainment industry darling, Netflix has once again produced a series featuring a group of men who strike it rich by trafficking cocaine — this time in Spain. The smugglers lives — from hardscrabble beginnings — parallel those of traffickers in Central America and other regions, showing that if you're familiar with the routes, it's easy to go from fish to faraña."

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/netflixs-cocaine-coast-4-similarities-between-spain-and-central-america/>

22/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, EU; Repression; Corruption - Congress, de Lobo; IMF; Economy; Liberal Party; National Police; National Dialogue; Religion; and a New Dawn

A first ruling is expected in the Berta Cáceres trial in the coming days. A delegation by CEJIL traveled to Honduras to further accompany Berta's family and COPINH in their quest for truth and justice. CEJIL denounces once more that the trial has been riddled with irregularities and as a consequence, no integral justice can be expected from it. "The achieved sentence will be insufficient and will only be a first step in this case, because neither the family nor COPINH nor the organizations that have supported their struggle will cease our demand for justice for Berta Cáceres."

<https://www.cejil.org/es/cejil-proceso-penal-caso-berta-caceres-no-representa-una-justicia-integral>

The spokesperson of the EU's Foreign Secretary Federica Mogherini published a press release on the Berta Cáceres case. "We expect that the rule of law, human rights and the independence of the judiciary are safeguarded and underline the need for the trial to be transparent and public. The rights to be represented and to access to information, including the families' right to private representation, are key in this context."

https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/54301/statement-spokesperson-trial-those-accused-murder-honduran-human-rights-defender-berta-caceres_en

<https://www.lavanguardia.com/politica/20181122/453097416605/la-ue-pide-respetar-derechos-en-juicio-por-asesinato-de-ambientalista-caceres.html>

REDEHSUR denounces the repression by state security forces against participants of a protest in Choluteca on Wednesday (see also yesterday). C-Libre condemns the use of tear gas against the journalist Mauricio Rivera during a live-transmission during the protest. Pasos de Animal Grande reports on additional attacks against the journalist Elizabeth Zúniga, the deputy congressman Darío Morán as well as a pregnant woman. The local priest Héctor Osorto denounced that he was being shot at when trying to speak at the protest.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/redehsur-documenta-violaciones-a-derechos-humanos-en-choluteca/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/agresion-fisica/927-militares-lanzan-bombas-lacrimogenas-a-periodista-en-trasmision-en-vivo>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/criminalizacion-de-la-protesta-publica/926-represion-a-manifestantes-durante-sesion-de-poder-legislativo>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2344-ardio-choluteca-una-periodista-un-diputado-y-una-mujer-embarazada-fueron-atacados-por-la-policia>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2343-heridos-y-golpeados-en-segundo-dia-de-protesta-en-choluteca-mientras-pastor-denuncia-que-policia-le-disparo-bala-viva>

Yesterday, worrisome intentions by Congress, in the name of the head of the Nationalist Party Mario Pérez, came to light and cause an outcry. It was made public that Congress wanted to change Article 218 of the Constitution giving it more power by withdrawing the right of the president to veto laws. The lawyer Rene Adán Tomé denounced that this should be seen as a further attempt by congresswo/men to protect themselves from corruption investigations. Gabriela Castellanos, director of the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), labeled Congress as "an impunity creating monster". After this wave of criticism, Pérez withdrew the bill.

<https://confidencialhn.com/advierten-nueva-jugada-de-diputados-para-blindarse-de-sanciones-por-corrupcion/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/22/diputados-nacionalistas-buscan-blindarse-quitando-el-veto-al-presidente/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/22/congreso-nacional-es-un-monstruo-creando-impunidad-gabriela-castellanos/>

<https://tiempo.hn/directora-del-cna-eliminar-el-veto-presidencial-es-una-interpretacion-dictatorial/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1236184-410/-retrocede-eliminar-derecho-al-veto-sancion-ejecutivo-presidente-honduras->

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236169-466/congreso-nacional-retira-intento-para-que-no-se-sancionen-interpretaciones-a-leyes>

For the third time already, a judge denied to lift pre-trial detention for the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236158-466/jueces-le-niegan-una-vez-m%C3%A1s-la-libertad-a-rosa-elena-bonilla>

Javier Suazo analyses a recent visit by an IMF delegation to Honduras. He recommends that "the opposition leaders must closely follow the negotiations with the IMF, since the political circus could be a distraction for new breakdowns and privatizations of public services against the people and a bath of balm for JOH and his government."

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/opiniones/874-fmi-vamos-bien-pero-estamos-mal>

The former president of the Honduran Central Bank, Hugo Noé Pino, was awarded the José Cecilio del Valle Award by the Honduran Economists Association (CHE). Noé Pino writes regularly for Criterio and he is very critical of JOH and the neoliberal development model.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/22/premian-a-un-hombre-que-ha-humanizado-la-economia-en-honduras/>

The tense situation at the Liberal Party finally exploded with the expulsion of 17 congresswo/men. They had stirred anger by voting in favor of an intervention committee for the National Persons Registry (RNP). The in-fight can also be broken down to a fight between the president of the Liberal Party, Luis Zelaya, and the head of the Liberal Party in Congress, Elvin Santos. In a press release, the expelled congresswo/men denounce the act as "illegal and arbitrary".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/22/partido-liberal-expulsa-de-sus-filas-a-17-diputados/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1236192-410/partido-liberal-expulsa-diputados-crisis-politicos-luis-zelaya-elvin-santos->

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/22/bancada-liberal-le-declara-la-guerra-a-luis-zelaya/>

<https://tiempo.hn/bancada-del-pl-califica-como-accion-arbitraria-de-luis-zelaya-expulsion-de-diputados/>

<https://tiempo.hn/elvin-santos-asegura-que-luis-zelaya-y-tribunal-disciplinario-destruyen-al-partido-liberal/>

A purged police official was reintegrated after two years after having shown that he was illegally fired.

<https://confidencialhn.com/golpe-a-omar-rivera-y-alberto-solorzano-reintegran-a-policia-depurado-en-2016/>

UN representative Igor Garafulic comments on the discussions about the popular consultation.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/22/consulta-sera-en-el-2021-confirma-igor-garafulic/>

Just days after Congress' president Mauricio Oliva mentioned a possible change to the constitution allowing pastors to run for public positions, La Prensa already reports on the intention by some evangelical priests to form a party.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1236182-410/pastores-evangelicos-partido-pol%C3%ADtico-honduras->

Radio Progreso positively views last week's first popular consultation held by the Alignment against the Reelection (CCC). "The consultation in San José is an experience where we all win. The people won by having their say on the economic model and the institutionality of the country, social movements won by advancing horizontal practices on their proposals for the country, and participatory democracy won. Undoubtedly, something new is being born, 2019 will be a year to continue consulting the people and continue to grow in resistance and dignity that springs from a new political culture."

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/algo-nuevo-esta-naciendo-22-de-noviembre-2018/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/mediante-consulta-popular-municipio-de-san-jose-la-paz-rechaza-mineras-e-hidroelectricas/>

23/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs - Protection Mechanism; JOH - Drug Trafficking, US; Caravan - US; National Dialogue; National Party; Corruption - Pandora, Health Secretariat; Public Health; and Violence against Women

Today, the conclusions in the first trial of the Berta Cáceres case against 8 accused will be presented today. The decisions by the judges will take a bit longer, but are expected before the holidays of the judiciary start on December 15. As has been highlighted in innumerable links in this newsletter, COPINH, Berta's family as well as national and international human rights organizations have denounced several irregularities and do not expect the outcome of this first trial to bring forward integral justice.

COPINH published a presentation of the planned execution of Berta and a short video summarizing their findings.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3095-en-juicio-de-berta-habra-condenados-pero-no-justicia-segun-abogada-internacional>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/cronologia-de-la-planificacion-y-ejecucion-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video-la-verdad-en-la-causa-berta-caceres/>

The Human Rights Lawyers Network denounces an attack against its member Ely Portillo. In the last four months, his car has been tampered with, he suffered a tear gas attack by state security forces and now on November 22, unknown assailants tried to murder him outside his house.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2347-atacan-a-integrante-de-red-de-abogados-y-abogadas-de-derechos-humanos-en-el-sur-de-honduras>

Pasos de Animal Grande continues to cover how the protection mechanism fails journalist Jairo López.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2346-quien-asume-las-consecuencias-echan-de-sede-policial-a-escolta-del-periodista-jairo-lopez>

Up to this point, it was mostly the former president, Porfirio Lobo, who made headlines with arrested relatives (his wife, his son and his brother). Now it also touches JOH as his brother, Juan Antonio "Tony" Hernández was arrested in Miami for "conspiring to import cocaine". The arrest dominated Honduras' media landscape today.

JOH's office issued a statement Friday evening confirming the arrest reiterating previous remarks from JOH that the accused deserve the presumption of innocence, but that no man is above the law.

He also recognized that it is a severe blow for him and his family.

The arrest goes back to statements made by the head of the Los Cachiros drug cartel Devis Leonel Rivera Madariaga in March in a New York court.

The president of the Liberal Party, Luis Zelaya, tweeted that "I only believe in US and divine justice". Libre's Mel Zelaya is more skeptical.

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article222118275.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/hermano-del-presidente-hernandez-detenido-en-eeuu/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3094-gobierno-hondureno-pide-respetar-derechos-de-hermano-del-gobernante-detenido-en-ee-uu-por-presunta-narcoactividad>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/23/hernandez-reconoce-que-captura-de-su-hermano-es-un-duro-golpe-para-el/>

<https://tiempo.hn/como-un-golpe-fuerte-califica-joh-captura-de-su-hermano-tony-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/23/jefe-de-los-cachiros-delato-a-tony-hernandez-en-corte-de-nueva-york/>

<https://tiempo.hn/devis-maradiaga-lider-de-los-cachiros-habria-delatado-a-tony-hernandez/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/luis-celebra-que-ee-uu-haya-arrestado-a-tony-y-mel-arremete-contra-hernandez/>

According to ConfidencialHN, Tony Hernández may also have been involved in an attempt to murder the former US ambassador James Nealon.

<https://confidencialhn.com/la-dea-me-esta-presionando-para-que-declare-contra-el-hermano-del-presidente-2/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/su-tiempo-para-ayudar-esta-expirando-asi-chantajeo-el-agente-matthews-a-orellana-por-tony/>

Beth Gaglia presents Honduras migration as an "escape from fear" by presenting a mix of touching individual examples and structural factors.

<https://www.redpepper.org.uk/escape-from-fear/>

The Miami Herald reports on the US as a push factor of Honduran migration by supporting a violent regime. Even worse, "[t]he Miami Herald found that the political violence in Honduras, which has contributed to an exodus of migrants, was sometimes carried out with U.S.-made weapons used by the government's paramilitary force. The Honduran military police should not possess U.S.-made rifles sold under private arms licensing agreements, according to the State Department."

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/article221908900.html>

UN' representative Igor Garafulic announced that he would hand over the results of the dialogue to Congress' president Mauricio Oliva.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236419-466/garafulic-llevar%C3%A1-al-congreso-nacional-resultados-del-di%C3%A1logo-pol%C3%ADtico>

In their annual gathering, the National Party approved an party-internal regulation of the presidential reelection.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236423-466/honduras-nacionalistas-aprueban-que-se-regule-reelecci%C3%B3n>

After weeks of silence, there is some news regarding the Pandora corruption case. The director of two of the highlighted foundations, Fernando Josué Suárez Ramírez, was arrested.

<https://tiempo.hn/detencion-judicial-decretan-contra-implicado-en-caso-pandora/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/capturan-a-uno-de-los-cerebros-de-la-trama-corrupta-pandora-sera-presentado-ante-juez/>

Several former employees of the Health Secretariat have been sentenced for corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/condenan-a-exfuncionarios-de-salud-por-entregar-becas-de-manera-irregular/>

The Constitutional Chamber rejected a challenge by the Medical Association Honduras (CMH) against JOH's Intervention Committee for the Health System.

<https://confidencialhn.com/desestiman-recurso-que-pedia-anulacion-de-junta-interventora-sanitaria/>

Feminist and women's rights organization held a forum on the work of the Inter-Institutional Monitoring Commission of Violent Deaths of Women and Femicide.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2345-organizaciones-feministas-sientan-al-estado-de-honduras-para-encontrar-soluciones-a-la-violencia-contra-las-mujeres>

24/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; US; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Caravan; Liberal Party; National Party; Penitentiary System; and One Year after the Electoral Fraud

The Berta Cáceres trial concluded and the judges will announce their verdict next Thursday, November 29 at 4pm.

<https://tiempo.hn/proximo-jueves-fallo-bertha-caceres/>

Jacobin published an adapted excerpt by Dana Frank's new book on Honduras. "The United States has long danced with dictators in Central America. US support for Honduran president Juan Orlando Hernández is no different."

<https://jacobinmag.com/2018/11/long-honduran-night-dana-frank-us-honduras-juan-orlando-hernandez>

El Pulso reports on the tight control of Chapo Guzman in Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/el-control-del-chapo-en-honduras/>

According to former army captain Santos Rodríguez Orellano, there are a lot more powerful people linked to drug trafficking in Honduras beyond the arrested brother of JOH, Tony Hernández.

For sociologist Pablo Carías, his arrest only further emphasizes the incapacity of Honduras' judicial system to go after narco-politicians.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/existen-generales-de-las-ffaa-ligados-al-narcotrafico-dice-exoficial-rodriguez-orellana.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/exmilitar-rodriguez-orellana-reafirma-nexos-de-altos-jerarcas-de-ffaa-con-el-narcotrafico/>

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/24/analistas-sobre-caso-tony-hernandez-justicia-hondurena-ha-sido-incapaz-de-intervenir-narco-politica/>

Activists in Costa Rica sent a message of solidarity with Honduran migrants.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/24/acciones-en-costa-rica-en-solidaridad-con-honduras/>

El Pulso spoke with Liberal leader and former Liberal representative at the TSE, Enrique Ortíz Sequeira, about the expulsion of 1 Liberal congresswo/men from the party.

One of the expelled congressman and its leader in Congress, Elvin Santos, accused the president of the Liberal Party, Luis Zelaya, that he is cahoots with JOH. At the same time, there are voices saying that Luis Zelaya and Salvador Nasralla may form a new opposition party.

<http://elpulso.hn/enrique-ortez-sequeira-los-liberales-no-hemos-corregido-las-viejas-manas-de-convertirnos-en-golpistas/>

<https://tiempo.hn/elvin-santos-senala-luis-zelaya/>

The National Party gathered these last days and yesterday JOH announced that he won't run for public office again.

JOH also once more promised jobs and infrastructure investment.

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/24/joh-ya-no-voy-aspirar-a-cargos-de-eleccion-popular/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/24/presidente-hernandez-anuncia-millonaria-inversion-en-carreteras-y-generacion-de-empleo/>

Fusina transferred 93 inmates from various prisons to the so-called

maximum security prison La Tolva.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/trasladan-a-93-privados-de-libertad-de-varias-carceles-hacia-la-tolva.html>

"One year of electoral fraud, one year, and illegality won the battle, a whole project is being consolidated and imposed based on the use of armed force, the political support of interventionist governments such as the United States and thanks to the dark forces that move under the organized crime corridor. An alliance that seems unbreakable or difficult to undermine. (...) The truth is that the National Dialogue has been nothing more than an act of domestic entertainment and international gain for the nationalist government that has managed to capitalize on that act in presenting a better face to the international community."

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/camino-a-mas-crisis-24-de-noviembre-2018/>

25/11/18

Honduras Daily: Women's Rights; Corruption - Pandora; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Irregularities - Coalianza, UNAH; Public Health; Deportations; National Dialogue; and Costly New License Plates

Honduras and the world commemorated yesterday's Day of No Violence against Women.

On this occasion, Expediente Público published an article on how femicide is counted in Honduras and one on forced disappearance of women and girls.

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/11/25/que-conmemorar-este-25-de-noviembre/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/25noviembre-justicia-para-berta/>

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/dia-mujer/121-como-se-registran-los-femicidios-en-honduras>

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/dia-mujer/122-la-desaparicion-de-mujeres-en-honduras-un-fenomeno-silencioso>

Pasos de Animal Grande published an important article on the role of Congress in producing laws to protect themselves and other state functionaries from corruption investigations.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/investigaciones/item/2340-congreso-nacional-la-maquila-de-leyes-anti-derechos-y-de-proteccion-de-los-corruptos>

The Pandora corruption case found its way back into the headlines. Omar Menjívar, the lawyer of the accused Fernando Suárez, made public that Suárez confessed in court that JOH and his deceased sister were the heads behind the corruption case. In the words of Menjívar: "What happened was the result of the decision, planning, execution, supervision of a criminal organization that unfortunately is the one that directs the State of Honduras and that criminal organization had an executive direction and that executive direction was exercised by none other than Hilda Hernández, by delegation, knowledge of the current president of the Republic. They are the leaders of this."

JOH demands proof and appeals to the assumption of innocence. Suárez, meanwhile, remains in custody at ATIC, not in a prison for security reasons.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/11/actor-clave-en-caso-pandora-declara-que.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/joh-responde-a-senalamientos-hechos-por-abogado-de-implicado-en-caso-pandora/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-niega-estar-involucrado-en-trama-pandora-y-califica-acusaciones-como-difamatorias/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/25/testigo-clave-de-pandora-guardara-prision-en-las-celdas-de-la-atic/>

It is interesting that the revelations by Menjívar (see above) are made in the same week JOH's brother, Tony Hernández, was arrested in the US for drug trafficking. He will appear in court today.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/transparencia/876-capturan-a-hermano-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-en-miami>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1236908-410/-tony-hernandez-corte-nueva-york-narco-droga-coca%C3%ADna-hermano-joh->

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/inicio/1236911-465/tony-hern%C3%A1ndez-conocer%C3%A1-este-lunes-por-qu%C3%A9-lo-acusan-en-estados-unidos>

Some time ago, new irregularities at the privatizing body Coalianza were made public. But the promised audit of Coalianza and its project has not started yet.

<https://tiempo.hn/auditaran-proyectos-adjudicados-por-coalianza-henecan-en-la-mira-de-asi/>

El Heraldo reports on irregularities at the UNAH and the company auditing it.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236864-466/revelan-irregular-nombramiento-de-auditor-interno-en-la-unah>

Workers at the University Hospital (HEU) will hold a five-hour strike to highlight their difficult working conditions and unkept promises regarding the delivery of new medical equipment.

<https://confidencialhn.com/trabajadores-del-hospital-escuela-paralizaran-labores-por-trabajar-en-nefastas-condiciones/>

The number of deportations have increased by some 50% this year. So far this year, 71,584 Hondurans have been deported back to their country.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236866-466/cifra-de-deportaciones-aument%C3%B3-un-50-este-a%C3%B1o>

The National Dialogue will continue today as a last attempt to find common ground in five sensible areas, e.g. the political prisoners and the electoral fraud.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1236871-466/di%C3%A1logo-nacional-se-reanuda-este-lunes-para-ver-temas-sensibles>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1236882-410/-millones-perdidat-emision-nuevas-placas-carros-tonnjes-honduras->

26/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Repression; Caravan - US; Drug Trafficking - JOH, Armed Forces; HRDs; Extortion; Budget; MACCIH; Corruption - IHSS, de Lobo; National Dialogue; National Police; and the Cachureca Mob

COPINH published the statement by Laura Zúniga Cáceres held as the trial ended last week. It is a powerful statement of a daughter who lost her mother and together with others continues her struggle. "Today it's up to me to speak, something I don't want to do because no one wants to talk after their mother has been murdered, it's up to me to speak because this justice system didn't allow us to participate in this process, it expelled us. (...) And today, unfortunately, justice is

indebted to us, but that doesn't mean we are going to ignore the fact that there are guilty people in this room. Not all are guilty, but here there are hitmen, here there is necessary collaboration, here there are persecutors, there are infiltrators and we have to say it. (...) I'm not going to say more, but even if it is only for this moment, thank you, because unfortunately, this was the only time that we were able to express ourselves in this entire process. The struggle for justice for Berta Cáceres does not end here. There are more judicial processes that we will continue with, and we will keep appealing to these institutions so that they act in the way a justice system should act. We are not passive victims. We will act because Berta Cáceres deserves it, because the Lenca People deserve it, because they keep persecuting us even now because this criminal structure that killed Berta Cáceres is still active and we will also denounce that."

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/laura-zuniga-caceres/>

Hondurans took to the street to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the 2017 electoral fraud and the following post-electoral repression. State security forces once more reacted with violence. They used tear gas and live bullets. Several citizens were wounded, among them the UNETV journalist Geovanny Sierra. He was shot at and had to be hospitalized.

Apparently, he has been shot from someone inside a bus belonging to the National Penitentiary Institute (INP). A press release by the Security Secretariat denied that state security forces shot at protesters - it is 2017 all over again.

Later the same night, the INP also emitted a press release, suddenly changing the narrative. They unconvincingly claim that protesters tried to free inmates transported in their bus and this is why they had to shoot at them...

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/26/hieren-a-periodista-de-unetv-y-reprimen-a-manifestantes-en-tegucigalpa/>

<https://tiempo.hn/hieren-a-reconocido-periodista-durante-enfrentamiento-violento-en-manifestacion-de-libre/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/me-dieron-me-dieron-disparan-a-periodista-desde-autobus-durante-protestas/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/26/policias-del-inp-habrian-disparado-contr-el-periodista-geovanny-sierra/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/26/inp-acepta-que-sus-policias-dispararon-contr-periodista-geovanny-sierra/>

<https://www.facebook.com/unetvhn/videos/377132839691445/>

According to the Washington Post, the number of mostly Honduran migrants who recently arrived in Tijuana has reached 7400. On Sunday, tired after their exhausting journey and facing an unknown future waiting in Mexico, some organized to protest at the US border. As a group tried to cross the border, they were repressed with tear gas and the US closed one of the busiest ports along the US border with Mexico.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/us-closes-major-crossing-as-caravan-migrants-mass-at-border-in-mexico/2018/11/25/f94aabe0-f0ea-11e8-99c2-cfca6fcf610c_story.html?utm_term=.f289479b7c2d

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/gallery/2018/nov/26/tear-gas-and-trouble-migrants-meet-hostility-at-the-us-border-in-pictures>

Sandra Cuffe dedicates an article to last year's post-electoral repression as a source of Honduran migration. "The bullet hole in Junior Rivera's neighbour's garage door was just one of many in the Lopez Arellano sector of Choloma, in northwestern Honduras. Military police shot live ammunition during repeated crackdowns on local highway blockades by residents protesting what they called "election fraud". "This is the sector that was the worst hit by the repression," Rivera, an opposition alliance political activist (...) Six Lopez Arellano residents were shot and killed in when security forces attacked local

highway blockades in the month following the elections. The government and military denied responsibility for any post-election killings."

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/11/hondurans-continue-flee-year-post-election-crackdown-181126132856413.html>

InSight Crime picked up the arrest of JOH's brother Tony Hernández. They conclude: "It's unclear what Antonio Hernández's arrest means for US-Honduras relations. President Hernández is the United States' main ally in Central America. The North American nation backed Hernández even after his bitterly contested reelection victory was marred by allegations of electoral fraud.

At home, President Hernández is already in the crosshairs of anti-corruption prosecutors in the Attorney General's Office and the internationally-backed Support Mission Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (Misión de Apoyo contra la Corrupción y la Impunidad en Honduras - MACCIH) regarding his alleged role in diverting millions of dollars of public money for political purposes.

The United States is one of the major funders of the MACCIH, but it remains to be seen if the arrest of the president's brother and the ongoing investigation into Hernández's alleged criminal activity will alter the relationship of the two nations."

In the US, meanwhile, both the DEA and the Department of Justice emitted press release on his arrest with further information about the scope of his drug trafficking activities. The DEA writes that "[a]s stated in the unsealed indictment resulting from DEA's investigation, from at least in or about 2004, up to and including in or about 2016, multiple drug-trafficking organizations in Honduras and elsewhere worked together, and with support from certain prominent public and private individuals. These included Honduran politicians and law enforcement officials, who received multi-ton loads of cocaine sent to Honduras from, among other places, Colombia via air and maritime routes, in order to transport the drugs westward in Honduras toward the border with Guatemala and eventually to the United States. For protection from official interference, and in order to facilitate the safe passage through Honduras of multi-hundred-kilogram loads of cocaine, drug traffickers paid bribes to public officials, including certain members of the National Congress of Honduras, according to DEA's investigation."

El Pulso speaks with political analyst Raúl Pineda about the drug-trafficking-politicians-nexus in Honduras.

To divert attention away from this, the JOH regime published a press release highlighting their "successful" anti-drug trafficking efforts.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/tony-hernandez-produjo-trafico-y-distribuyo-droga-utilizando-su-poder-politico-denuncia-corte-norteamericana/>

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/us-alleges-honduras-president-brother-major-drug-trafficker/>

<https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2018/11/26/dea-announces-arrest-former-honduran-congressman-and-brother-current>

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/pr/former-honduran-congressman-and-brother-current-president-honduras-charged-conspiring>

<http://elpulso.hn/entrevista-raul-pineda-alvarado-la-influencia-de-los-varones-de-la-droga-en-la-politica-era-evidente/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/11/27/gobierno-de-joh-desarticulo-operaciones-de-5-carteles/>

This weekend, the army captain Santos Rodríguez Orellana denounce links between drug traffickers and army officials. In a press release, the Armed Forces demand proof.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/26/ff-aa-exige-a-rodriguez-orellana-que-pruebe-que-hay-colusion-con-el-narcotrafico-y-corrupcion/>

OACNUDH congratulates Honduran HRD and director of Casa Alianza, Guadalupe Ruela, for winning the Ohtli Award by the Mexican government.

<https://twitter.com/ONUDDHH/status/1067198841496248320>

El Pulso questions the JOH's regimes efforts to fight extortion. "Despite millions invested in security, the creation and transformation of the bodies fighting crimes and hundreds of arrests, the main target which would eliminate this course has not been hit as thousands of Hondurans continue to suffer extortion on a daily basis, obliged to hand over their earnings, flee or even pay with their lives."

<http://elpulso.hn/la-extorsion-continua-atacando-a-comerciantes/>

The Central American Fiscal Studies Institute (Icefi) criticizes the tendency of the Honduran government "to prioritize spending for the payment of debt service and for other expenses based on the interests of politicians and the government of the day, to the detriment of social welfare".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/26/honduras-persigue-estabilidad-de-sus-finanzas-publicas-por-encima-de-las-necesidades-de-la-poblacion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/presupuesto-del-2019-sera-para-pagar-deuda-publica-e-incrementar-deuda-social-economista/>

Since the creation of the MACCIH, there was one key demand, the adoption of the Efficient Collaboration Bill. So far Congress ignored this and it is doubtful the newest attempt by the lawyer Raúl Suazo to convince them to adopt it will bear fruit.

<https://confidencialhn.com/piden-al-parlamento-de-honduras-que-apruebe-ya-mismo-ley-de-colaboracion-eficaz/>

ConfidencialHN describes the IHSS corruption case as "The Leviathan of Corruption in Honduras".

<https://confidencialhn.com/yo-tengo-poder-reinaldo-ekonomo-el-otro-padrino-del-mega fraude-al-ihss/>

The trial against the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo will take place from January 21 to February 18, 2019.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237181-466/programan-para-el-21-de-enero-el-juicio-contra-ex-primera-dama>

The National Dialogue did not come to an agreement regarding the sensitive topics such as the political prisoners.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237168-466/honduras-otra-vez-el-di%C3%A1logo-pol%C3%ADtico-sin-acuerdos-sobre-temas-sensibles>

La Prensa reports that the mandate of the purging committee will be broadened starting next January.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1237147-410/-funciones-comision-depuradora-polic%C3%ADa-nacional-honduras->

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/26/desfile-de-mafias-cachurecas/>

27/11/18

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Berta - Trial; Corruption - Caja Chica; Repression - Journalist, Dialogue; Drug Trafficking - JOH, Intimidation; JOH; LGBTI - US; Migration - US; Defense Spending; and the Country of Femicide

In its newest report on the closing of civic space, CIVICUS counts Honduras as among "the most repressive countries".

<https://www.civicus.org/documents/PeoplePowerUnderAttack.Report.27November.pdf>

The Spanish newspaper El País reports on the Berta Cáceres trial, its irregularities and its expected conclusion tomorrow. COPINH also calls out to the national and international community to make use of their voice to inform the world about the irregularities of the trial.

https://elpais.com/internacional/2018/11/28/america/1543360087_683403.html

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video/>

Radio Progreso lauds the work and the courage of the lawyers Omar Menjívar and Luis Javier Santos, the first working for civil society organizations, the latter is the head of UFECIC. Both have made headlines lately in their quest to bring a corruption case to the public involving JOH (see Monday's e-mail).

The CNA handed over "hundreds of files regarding presumed acts of corruptions by high-level state officials" to UFECIC.

Óscar Esquivel presents the currently discussed corruption cases in Honduras (Pandora, IHSS, the one against the former first lady and the one against the brother of the former president) as a possibility for "capable and honorable" politicians to enter the scene and create with an awakening public a real republic with independent state powers and free of foreign interference.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.net/la-valentia-de-omar-y-luis-javier/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/cna-entrega-a-la-ufecic-cientos-de-folios-sobre-presunta-corrupcion-publica/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237469-466/honduras-el-cna-entrega-documentos-a-la-ufecic>

<http://elpulso.hn/oportunidad-construir-hn/>

The Caja Chica del Hermano corruption case will continue tomorrow afternoon when the court will inform about the results of the initial hearing.

The defense of Ramón Lobo, Pepe Lobo's brother, offered 26 million Lempiras bail money.

<https://confidencialhn.com/programan-para-el-viernes-lectura-del-fallo-en-causa-contra-exfuncionarios-del-gobierno-de-lobo/>

<https://tiempo.hn/unos-l-26-millones-ofrecio-defensa-de-ramon-lobo-para-que-este-salga-en-libertad/>

There are many additional articles on Monday's repression against the protest commemorating the first year after the electoral fraud and the post-electoral human rights violations.

The Human Rights Secretary Karla Cueva announced an investigation.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/878-con-gas-y-balas-atacan-a-manifestacion-popular-a-un-ano-de-proceso-electoral>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2350-represion-policial-a-manifestacion-deja-un-periodista-y-promotor-cultural-heridos>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/agresion-fisica/928-agentes-penitenciarios-hieren-a-periodista-durante-cobertura-informativa>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3101-salvajismo-militares-dispararon-bala-viva-a-hondurenos>

<https://confidencialhn.com/anuncian-investigacion-de-disturbios-entre-manifestantes-y-fuerza-publica/>

Pasos de Animal Grande has an additional article on the attack against journalist Geovanny Sierra during Monday's repression. The MP announced to investigate it.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2352-agenda-mediatica-copias-al-carbon-de-la-colombia-represiva-y-el-papel-de-los-periodistas-en>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1237494-466/la-fiscal%C3%ADa-abre-denuncia-sobre-ataque-a-periodista-durante-protesta-de-libre>

This renewed repression is one sign of why the National Dialogue has failed in Honduras according to Radio Progreso. "Almost a year after these events, all the political forces participating in the dialogue and the population in general, have realized that this platform was useless, that it was a resounding failure and that the political crisis is more alive than ever, with a validated and consolidated fraud and with violators of human rights in freedom and in total impunity."

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/dialogo-fracaso-porque-no-pudo-revertir-el-fraude-ni-castigar-a-violadores-de-derechos-humanos/>

A Miami judge ordered the transfer of Tony Hernández to New York. Radio Progreso reports on the silence by the main media outlets on the arrest and trial of JOH's brother. In Congress, Libre was silence when demanding the creation of special committee to investigate the case of Tony Hernández, i.e. why the Honduran judicial system did not investigate him.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3102-juez-ordena-que-tony-hernandez-sea-procesado-en-new-york>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/tony-hernandez-produjo-trafico-y-distribuyo-droga-utilizando-su-poder-politico-denuncia-corte-norteamericana/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/27/cn-niega-palabra-a-libre-para-interpelacion-a-joh-por-acusaciones-contrasu-hermano/>

The retired army captain Santos Rodríguez Orellano denounces that his family received threats and this just a day after he spoke about possible drug trafficking links of high army officials.

<https://confidencialhn.com/desconocidos-intimidan-a-familia-del-capitan-hondureno-rodriguez/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/27/capitan-santos-rodriguez-orellana-es-absuelto-de-delitos-que-se-le-imputaban/>

<https://tiempo.hn/480717-2/>

One place where the protests have never stopped since last November is Choluteca. Every Wednesday and Saturday, people take to the streets demanding an end to the JOH regime.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/hasta-sacar-al-dictador-protestas-en-el-sur-del-pais/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2351-a-quienes-atacan-en-las-movilizaciones-en-choluteca>

Various US LGBTI organizations announced legal measures in the case of the Honduran trans woman Roxana Hernández who died in a US detention center at the border in May this year.

<http://elpulso.hn/defensores-de-lgtbi-anuncian-demanda-por-muerte-de-mujer-trans-en-centro-de-detencion-en-la-frontera/>

Jeff Ernst tells the story of Melvin Gómez, a Honduran migrants who fled violence only to die on the way to the US just a week short of 22.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/melvin-gomez-murio-en-la-caravana-esta-es-la-historia-que-hizo-que-el-y-miles-de-migrantes-huyan-de-honduras/>

The use of tear gas by US security forces against migrants, especially children, caused an outcry.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/27/mi-pais-gasea-a-ninos-no-hay-palabras-que-puedan-describir-mi-horror-anne-hathaway/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/26/world/americas/tear-gas-migrant-children-photo.html>

The budget for the Armed Forces continues to grow in Honduras. Next year, they will have an additional 571 million Lempiras, an increase of over 7%.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237507-466/el-presupuesto-de-defensa-subir%C3%A1-en-571-millones-de-lempiras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/27/honduras-paraiso-de-femicidios/>

28/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; JOH - National Party, Repression; Political Prisoners; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Caravan - US; Journalists; Transparency; National Police - Impunity; Women's Rights; Corruption; Public Health; Extradition; and a Weak Lempira

Expecting a verdict in the Berta Cáceres trial for today at 4pm, international coverage has grown again. Yesterday I already linked to an El País article, today there is more coverage by Democracy Now!. They spoke with US Honduran expert Dana Frank about the trial. OACNUDH and the IACHR published a joint press release expressing their "concern about the exclusion of the victim's representation and unwarranted delays in the process". They also highlight the need to go after the intellectual authors. These intellectual authors are still not on trial, as COPINH just reiterated with a new article called "The Atalas are Missing".

https://www.democracynow.org/2018/11/28/honduras_as_berta_caceres_murder_trial

<https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/prensa/comunicados/2018/256.asp>

<https://twitter.com/ONUDDHH/status/1067926504443658241>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/faltan-los-atala/>

The concurrence of the anniversary of the electoral fraud (see first link below for a message of solidarity by the Honduras Solidarity Network) and the arrest of JOH's brother Tony Hernández in the US for drug trafficking (see also second link below) have reignited widespread protests and demands for JOH to step down.

Radio Progreso published an article whose title just says that, "Step Down". Radio Progreso goes on to call for unity to join forces in demanding his resignation.

The student body has already taken up this call, protesting at UNAH. Two police agents infiltrated the protests, but were detected by the students. State security forces then repress them with tear gas.

The police unconvincingly claims that the two police infiltrators had their day off and just by accident landed inside the protest...

Libre published a press release calling out to the Honduran people join in their demand for the resignation of JOH.

On Wednesday, Libre and Pinu congresswo/men were stopped to present a motion in Congress to create a special commission investigating the link between JOH and drug trafficking (see yesterday's e-mail). Yesterday, continued to put pressure on in Congress.

The The Social Citizen Platform of Honduras demands an immediate resignation of JOH and as well as an investigation of him. And even the president of the Journalists Association Honduras (CPH), Dagoberto Rodríguez, wrote on Twitter that JOH lost any remaining credibility.

<http://www.hondurassolidarity.org/2018/11/28/one-year-later-a-call-to-solidarity/>

https://www.democracynow.org/2018/11/28/brother_of_honduran_president_is_arrested

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/renuncia-28-de-noviembre-2018/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/caos-en-la-unah-estudiantes-encapuchados-se-enfrentan-a-fuerza-publica-retienen-a-dos-agentes/>

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/28/policia-nacional-oficiales-agredidos-en-la-unah-gozaban-de-su-dia-libre-y-realizaban-diligencia-personales/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/28/partido-libre-llama-a-la-insurreccion-para-pedir-la-salida-inmediata-de-juan-hernandez-del-poder/>

<https://tiempo.hn/libre-investigar-participacion-joh-acusaciones-contrasu-hermano/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/exigen-crear-comision-que-investigue-supuesta-colusion-de-joh-en-crimen-organizado/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/piden-la-destitucion-y-proceso-penal-para-el-presidente-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://tiempo.hn/la-renuncia-de-joh-pide-implicitamente-presidente-de-colegio-de-periodistas/>

According to the advisor of Salvador Nasralla, Tony García, the arrest of Tony Hernández also caused further uncertainties inside the National Party.

<https://confidencialhn.com/nacionalistas-estan-destemplados-por-arresto-tony-asesor-de-nasralla/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports that the JOH regime sent an additional 300 police agents to Choluteca where the protests against the regime have been loudest and most persistent.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/el-informador/item/2353-denuncia-el-gobierno-de-joh-estaria-enviando-300-policias-para-reprimir-manifestantes-en-choluteca>

El Heraldo cites COFADEH's Bertha Oliva that 10 out of the 15 remaining political prisoners were released on Tuesday night.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237828-466/liberan-a-diez-de-los-presos-que-dej%C3%B3-la-crisis-pol%C3%ADtica-de>

El Heraldo informs that the presumed Honduran drug trafficker Víctor Hugo "El Rojo" Díaz Morales will be tried together with Tony Hernández.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237822-466/el-rojo-ser%C3%A1-declarante-en-la-acusaci%C3%B3n-contratony-hern%C3%A1ndez>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1237834-410/juez-que-lleva-caso-de-tony-hern%C3%A1ndez-es-de-mano-dura>

The UN published a press release reminding the international community that "[m]igrants and other persons in mobility, such as refugees and asylum seekers, travelling in caravans from Central America towards Mexico and the United States of America deserve full respect of their human rights by all countries involved".

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23941&LangID=E>

Democracy Now! spoke with Dana Frank not only about the Berta Cáceres trial (see above), but also about the US roots of the Honduran migrant caravan. "When you read the interviews or the mainstream news reports about why the migrants in the caravan are fleeing, they will say, "Well, they are fleeing gangs and violence and poverty." And that's true, but what's missing from that narrative is where the gangs and violence and poverty come from. It's not a natural disaster. It's actually the result of the deliberate policies of this government that came to the successive post—what we call the post-regime governments that came to power in the aftermath of the coup, most recently the illegal government of Juan Orlando Hernández. (...) So it is not just random violence. It is a U.S.-backed regime that is in cahoots with this. For example, a lot of people are fleeing gangs, or small business people are—their businesses are being destroyed by gang taxes. The police are very much cooperating with the gangs in extracting those kinds of so-called war taxes that the gang members charge. So it is this lawlessness that then opens the door for this kind of terror that people are fleeing, and the government is very much part of that terror."

https://www.democracynow.org/2018/11/28/it_is_not_a_natural_disaster

ConexiHon published a portrait of journalist Geovanny Sierra who was shot and wounded by state security forces this week while covering protest commemorating the anniversary of the electoral fraud.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/opiniones/879-geovanny-sierra-un-periodista-en-la-insurreccion>

C-Libre held a forum on the right to information by citizens in Honduras. Defensores en Línea concludes that "[n]ational and international experts agreed that the right of Honduran citizens to know public information is denied by excessive controls and secrecy, applied to issues such as security, defense, state contracting and mining and hydroelectric concessions, among other topics of national interest".

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-secretividad-frena-cualquier-intento-de-obtener-informacion-publica-en-honduras/>

Defensores en Línea denounces that once more the trial against six members of the police force accused of illegally detaining and mistreating 24 people during a protest in 2009 was suspended.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/apoderados-legales-de-policias-acusados-siguen-dilatando-el-proceso-en-el-caso-del-12-de-agosto/>

On Wednesday, the National Democratic Institute organized a forum on violence against women in politics.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/28/hacen-un-llamado-para-ponerle-fin-a-la-violencia-contra-las-mujeres-en-la-politica/>

The CNA held a press conference yesterday informing about corruption in the public health sector and announcing new investigations. ConfidencialHN published the first part of an investigative report on corruption at the ENEE.

<https://confidencialhn.com/cna-vuelve-a-repetir-que-hay-corrupcion-en-hospitales-publicos/>

<https://tiempo.hn/cna-crisis-sanitaria-se-agudizara-en-2019-pide-ser-parte-de-reestructuracion-en-salud/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/gerente-de-enee-quiere-beneficiar-a-empresa-laeiz-con-contrato-sobrevalorado/>

According to FOSDEH, an army official earns more than a doctor in Honduras reflecting the priorities by the JOH regime. The University Hospital will now be administrated by the Health Secretariat and not anymore by UNAH.

<https://confidencialhn.com/militares-hondurenos-ganan-mas-que-un-medico-en-honduras-segun-fosdeh/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/unah-traspasara-control-del-hospital-escuela-a-la-secretaria-de-salud/>

According to the speaker of the Security Secretariat, there are five open demands for extradition by the US.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1237819-466/polic%C3%ADa-tiene-cinco-%C3%B3rdenes-de-captura-contra-extraditables-hondure%C3%B1os>

FOSDEH published a news report on how the devaluation of the Lempira further impoverishes large groups of Hondurans.

<http://www.fosdeh.com/2018/11/boletin-de-prensa-devaluacion-continua-del-lempira-un-mecanismo-para-empobrecer/>

29/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Verdict, US; HRDs; JOH; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Political Prisoners; Journalists; Corruption - Pandora, HR; Public Health; Electric Energy; Congress; and Teenage Pregnancies

Three and a half years after the murder of Berta Cáceres, yesterday afternoon the verdict against the presumed eight material authors was presented. Seven men were found guilty of murdering Berta, four of them were additionally found guilty of attempted murder of the Mexican HRD Gustavo Castro. As the only one, Emerson Duarte Meza was acquitted. The official sentencing will take place on January 10.

The verdict further confirmed the role of DESA in the murder led lawyer Víctor Fernández to concluded that the trial showed that DESA is guilty. COPINH and Berta's family stated that the verdict did not satisfy their demands for justice as the court failed to include the intellectual authorship in the trial. "This ruling that has been pronounced in the First Chamber of the Sentencing Court that condemns the group of hitmen and the intermediate structure directly related to the company DESA does not mean that justice has been achieved. The structures and people who gave the money to kill Berta Cáceres continue to enjoy the freedom and the possibility of masterminding crimes like this without being unpunished. (...) With the chapter that closes today, the condemnations of the lowest link of the criminal structure with which the Honduran State intends to silence the demand for justice, does not end the fight for justice for Berta Cáceres and the Lenca people, on the contrary, it deepen our efforts."

COPINH and Berta's family also held a press conference outside the court (see 5th link).

<https://www.mp.hn/index.php/author-login/115-noviembre-2018/3686-ministerio-publico-logra-primer-condena-en-caso-de-la-lider-ambientalista-berta-caceres>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/29/berta-caceres-seven-men-convicted-conspiracy-murder-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/29/fallo-demuestra-que-desa-es-culpable-de-asesinato-de-berta-caceres-victor-fernandez/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/comunicado-ante-el-fallo/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/11/video-conferencia-sobre-el-fallo/>

<https://avispa.org/honduras-resolucion-sobre-asesinato-de-berta-caceres-mantiene-impunes-a-los-autores-intelectuales/>

<https://www.amnesty.org/es/latest/news/2018/11/honduras-half-truths-for-berta-caceres-and-her-family/>

After an investigation and a trial riddled with irregularities and violations of due process, the US chargé d'affaires played a sorry role by writing: "We commend the judicial process in this emblematic case."

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1068339810849484800>

HRDs and community leader Reynaldo Reyes Moreno was murdered yesterday. He was part of a community protest against the solar project Los Prados in Namasigüe, Choluteca. Before his murder, he had been criminalized together with 22 other local HRDs.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/mirada-al-sur/882-que-hay-detras-del-asesinato-del-lider-comunitario-de-los-prados-namasiguee>

The calls for JOH's resignation continue to be heard in Honduras (see also yesterday's e-mail). Omar Menjívar believes that the anti-corruption body of the MP, UFECIC, has enough proof to go after JOH. Liberal president Luis Zelaya writes that JOH's resignation is "imperative for the good of Honduras".

Criterio columnist Jaime Flores describes Tony Hernández's arrest as a liver punch ("gancho al hígado), not a knock-out, but a heavy blow which needs to be followed by an impeachment as well as an investigation. Radio Progreso, meanwhile, looks at the leadership of the National Party and concludes that "as the year comes to an end, it is confirmed that we are led by a group of people, who in themselves are the drivers of organized crime in the country".

According to Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle, there are still many challenges for real change. "Our predicament is deeper than it seems at first sight and more difficult to overcome."

<https://tiempo.hn/omar-menjivar-ufecic-tiene-todos-los-elementos-para-proceder-contra-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/29/es-imperativo-que-juan-hernandez-renuncie-por-el-bien-de-honduras-luis-zelaya/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/29/con-un-gancho-al-higado-hieren-de-muerte-al-dictador/>

<http://wp.radioprogresohn.net/el-gran-partido-nacional-29-de-noviembre-2018/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/29/honduras-en-vilo-historia-verdadera-y-dilema-de-actualidad/>

Tony Hernández will declare himself not-guilty.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/29/tony-hernandez-se-declarara-no-culpable-ante-corte-de-nueva-york/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1238118-410/abogado-rettea-tony-hernandez-declarara-no-culpable>

The Honduras Solidarity Network launched another call to free all political prisoners in Honduras. Five of them still remain imprisoned in Honduras and one in self-exile in Costa Rica - the student leader Eduardo Urbina.

<http://www.hondurassolidarity.org/999-2/>

Defensores en Línea reports that the journalist Geovanny Sierra will lose the ability to move his right arm due to the gun wound suffered by state security forces while covering this week's protest of the anniversary of the electoral fraud.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/periodista-geovanny-sierra-pierde-movilidad-de-su-brazo-derecho-por-disparos-de-militares-mientras-cubria-una-movilizacion/>

The head of the MACCIH, Luiz Marrey Guimaraes, explains once more his lack of public appearances. They are investigating corruption cases and once they reached a certain point, the public will be informed. At the same time, he informed that they are working on eleven new corruption cases.

<https://confidencialhn.com/jefe-de-la-maccih-asegura-que-hondurenos-conoceran-pronto-casos-de-corrupcion/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1238101-466/luiz-marrey-la-maccih-no-ser%C3%A1-instrumento-de-luchas-pol%C3%ADticas>

<https://tiempo.hn/maccih-once-casos-corrupcion-honduras/>

Radio Progreso spoke with the lawyer Omar Menjívar about the Pandora corruption case which to the latter has shown that Honduras is governed by organized crime.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn/caso-pandora-demuestra-que-el-pais-lo-gobierna-una-organizacion-criminal-senala-abogado-omar-menjivar/>

<https://tiempo.hn/omar-menjivar-ufecic-tiene-todos-los-elementos-para-proceder-contra-joh/>

The Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF) organizes a forum on human rights and corruption in Washington next week which will be live-streamed. Among the participants is a former MACCIH employee.

<http://www.dplf.org/en/event/human-rights-and-grand-corruption-what-role-international-law>

Just weeks after having announced a special commission for the public health system, JOH follows up with a special commission for the University Hospital (HEU).

<https://confidencialhn.com/hernandez-anuncia-intervencion-del-hospital-escuela-universitario/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/interventores-del-hospital-escuela-universitario-toman-sus-cargos-durante-un-ano/>

The private consortium Energy Company Honduras (EEH) has to repay some 137 million Lempiras to its costumers. 339'000 of them received erroneous energy bills.

<https://confidencialhn.com/eeh-tendra-que-devolver-fuertes-sumas-de-dinero-por-cobros-excesivos-en-consumo-electrico/>

FOSDEH and the Democracy without Borders Foundation published a joint report on the work of Congress in its first term.

<http://www.fosdeh.com/2018/11/informe-de-produccion-legislativa-2018-primer-semester-de-la-primera-legislatura-del-congreso-nacional-de-la-republica/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1238099-466/informe-aplaza-a-19-diputados-del-congreso-nacional-en-producci%C3%B3n-legislativa>

<http://elpulso.hn/1-de-cada-4-embarazadas-en-honduras-son-adolescentes/>

30/11/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Verdict, DESA Investigation; JOH; Journalists; Mining - Guapinol; Hydroelectricity; Corruption - Pandora; Caja Chica; Judicial System; National Police; and a Cultural Crime

Thursday's reading of the verdict in the Berta Cáceres trial was internationally covered. It is to be welcomed that the New York Times and others also highlighted the irregularities that accompanied the trial as well as its limits for the failure to go after the intellectual authors.

This second point, the demand for the prosecution of the intellectual authors, was also reiterated by OACNUDH as well as US Senator Patrick Leahy. The latter writes that "[o]nly when all those responsible are held to account – those who conceived of the crime and gave the orders, those who paid the assassins, and those who participated in the cover-up

- will justice have been served for Berta Caceres."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/29/world/americas/honduras-bertha-caceres.html>

https://www.wola.org/2018/11/verdict-bertha-caceres-murder-case-fails-meet-standards-justice/#new_tab

<https://twitter.com/ONUDDHH/status/1068579065194524673>

<https://www.leahy.senate.gov/press/113018cacerestrialverdict>

CEJIL, just as the lawyer Víctor Fernández on Thursday, finds that the verdict "finds proof of criminal structure behind her murder". DESA, meanwhile, called the trial "a politically motivated farce".

<https://www.cejil.org/en/cejil-sentence-bertha-caceres-case-finds-proof-criminal-structure-behind-her-murder>

<https://tiempo.hn/desa-califica-como-farsa-fallo-emitido-en-caso-bertha-caceres/>

The MP directed attention to three further suspects who already have been arrested: two police agents accused of tempering with evidence and DESA's executive director David Castillo.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1238364-466/ministerio-p%C3%BAblico-tiene-a-otros-tres-en-la-mira-por-el-caso>

<http://radiohrn.hn/2018/11/30/nuevos-requerimientos-fiscales-se-emitiran-en-los-proximos-dias-en-el-caso-de-bertha-caceres/>

The ongoing protests against the electoral fraud, even one year later, combined with the arrest of Tony Hernández in the US led many to believe that something is afoot in Honduras. Political analyst and former National congressman Raúl Pineda states that between December and February Honduran politics will be further stirred up and it may lead to the resignation of JOH. Possible sources may be the Pandora case or the new demands of extradition by the US including high officials or politicians. Pineda also believes that the political opposition in Honduras is too weak to get rid of JOH - only exogenous factors may lead to his resignation, especially the US.

In an OpEd for Criterio, Javier San Vicente writes of JOH as having water up to his neck.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/el-plan-de-joh-es-aspirar-nuevamente-a-la-presidencia-dice-analista-raul-pineda/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/30/narcocrisis-en-honduras/>

Defensores en Línea continues to cover the situation of journalist Giovanni Sierra who suffered a gun wound by state security forces on Monday and remains hospitalized (see this week's e-mails).

A group of journalists sought out the offices of CONADEH to demand an investigation of the attack against Sierra.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/pudo-ser-a-proposito-ataque-desde-el-bus-del-inp-que-hirio-a-periodistas-y-otros-manifestantes/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/periodistas-exigen-investigacion-por-heridos-de-bala-en-manifestacion-contra-el-fraude-electoral/>

This Sunday, the community of El Triunfo, Choluteca, will decide in a public consultation on mining concessions in their area. According to the local vice-president of the Environmental Committee, Wilfredo Hernández, the consultation will serve to pressure the mayor's office which so far ignored the local people.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/a-traves-de-consulta-ciudadana-el-triunfo-choluteca-decidira-sobre-concesiones-mineras/>

The 63-year old HRD and campesino Jeremías Martínez Cruz was arrested without an arrest warrant and the same day a judge decided that he has to remain in custody. He is accused of coercion against the mining company Inversiones Los Pinares which has spread terror together with state security forces in Guapinol, Colón for the last months.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/11/30/dictan-detencion-judicial-contradefensor-del-bajo-aguan/>

COFADEH and REDHIL-PAZ visited Lenca communities in the south of Honduras close to El Salvador who fear the imposition of new hydroelectric projects in their area.

Pasos de Animal Grande gives voice to the Santa Bárbara Environmental Movement (MAS) which denounces the presence of 23 hydroelectric projects, some already operating, in their area.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-amenaza-de-represar-rios-sin-consultar-a-los-lencas-persiste-en-el-departamento-de-la-paz/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2355-empresas-hidroelectricas-llegan-a-santa-barbara-a-instalarse-como-mafias>

Former president Pepe Lobo tries to discredit Fernando Josué Suárez Ramírez, an accused turned key witness in the Pandora corruption case. Suárez Ramírez' lawyer Omar Menjívar states that a audio recording by his client is authentic. The file in question links further public officials with the Pandora case.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1238264-410/porfirio-pepe-lobo-fernando-suarez-testigo-fabricado-hilda-hernandez-joh>

<https://tiempo.hn/abogado-menjivar-grabacion-es-autentica-ahora-la-fiscalia-tiene-evidencia-suficiente/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/operador-de-trama-corrupta-pandora-se-jactaba-de-codear-con-los-centros-de-poder/>

Fany Bennet Calderón, president of the board of the Association of Judges for Democracy (AJD), demands better protection for justices of the peace after the murder of Antonio Rodríguez in San Nicolás, Santa Bárbara.

<https://confidencialhn.com/exigen-medidas-efectivas-de-seguridad-para-proteger-jueces-de-paz/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/reconocen-que-presiones-y-atentados-criminalidad-aquejan-jueces-hondurenos/>

The two accused in the Caja Chica del Hermano corruption case will have to await trial on house arrest.

<https://tiempo.hn/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-wilfredo-cerrato-ramon-lobo/>

Another purged member of the police may return to his former job as a judge decided that his dismissal was unlawful.

<https://confidencialhn.com/justicia-ordena-reintegrar-a-policia-destituido-por-la-junta-depuradora/>

<http://elpulso.hn/crimen-cultural-en-la-biblioteca-juan-ramon-molina/>