

01/01/18

(Re)Elections - Repression, Protests, Dialogue; Fire Arms; Adoption; and a Paper Mache President

Family members and friends of the victims of state violence commemorated their lost ones with a joint ceremony.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/12/31/recuerdan-a-hondurenos-que-fueron-asesinados-durante-protestas-contrajoh/>

Libertad Digital denounces that the criminalization of protesters continues and that a judged opened a trial against a group of protesters without any proof.

<http://libertaddigital.news/politica/formalizan-causa-penal-sin-pruebas-contrapersonas-quesupuestamente-habrian-golpeado-a-policias/>

Wilfredo Méndez, director of CIPRODEH, once more points out that a dialogue under the current situation is most likely to be futile. "The only form to dialogue is to speak about the electoral fraud, call new elections and have the human rights violations as one key item of the discussion. Otherwise, with no justice nor respect of the popular will, a dialogue won't make sense under these circumstances."

<http://elpulso.hn/wilfredo-mendez-la-unica-forma-de-dialogar-es-que-se-hable-sobre-el-fraude-electoral/>

The prohibition to carry fire arms which came into force just before the election expires today.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2017/12/31/honduras-prohibicion-de-portar-armas-vence-este-1-de-enero/>

The newish Childhood, Adolescence and Family Bureau (Dinaf) has so far approved the adoption of 44 Honduran children. 23 were adopted by families living in Honduras, the rest by families in the US, Spain, Canada and other European countries.

<http://tiempo.hn/estados-unidos-y-canada-ninos-hondurenos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2017/12/31/41148/>

02/01/18

(Re)Elections - Repression, Fraud, Opposition Alliance, US; JOH; MACCIH; Armed Forces; National Police; and Small Parties Won't Disappear

Wilmer Paredes, member of the Opposition Alliance, participated in the recent post-electoral protests. He was shot by unknown assailants while he was driving his motorbike. According to friends, he had been beaten by state security forces during the protests.

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle writes about another murder, the one of the teacher union activist Mariano Antonio Munguía in Tocoa.

At the same time, opposition leaders from civil society and politics denounce a hate campaign instigated by the JOH regime against them.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/01/prosigue-violencia-poselectoral-en-honduras-matan-a-simpatizante-anti-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/01/en-san-juan-pueblo-asesinan-otro-joven-participante-en-las-protestas/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/01/origen-vigencia-la-doctrina-los-derechos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/01/honduras-denuncian-campana-odio-del-gobierno-lideres-opositores/>

Univision aired an interview with a computer expert and main author of the report by GANAS USA on the Honduran electoral fraud. The interview is accompanied by a further article on the fraud and the deleterious effect it has on the OAS in its role as the observer of democracy.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/01/vea-video-donde-experto-hondureno-revela-se-fraude-electoral/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/01/elecciones-hondurenas-fraude-incompetencia/>

The Opposition Alliance will hold a press conference today informing about its next steps. They also wrote an end of year letter to the Honduran people.

<http://tiempo.hn/alianza-anunciara-hoy-las-acciones-tomaran-proximos-dias/>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/01/carta-de-fin-de-ano-al-pueblo-hondureno.html>

Jeremy Krypt writes in the Daily Beast about JOH as a "Loyal U.S. Client, and Tyrant, Backed by Trump and the Bananan Republicans".

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/in-little-honduras-a-loyal-us-client-and-tyrant-backed-by-trump-and-the-bananan-republicans>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/01/estados-unidos-sigue-viendo-honduras-la-republica-bananera/>

Erin Gallagher published a new analysis of JOH's fake Twitter followers. She concludes: "Most Twitter networks contain a small percentage of automation from 3rd party apps or programs like TweetDeck, that's normal. But I've never seen a network where half of the tweets in the dataset were from TweetDeck. It's an outrageous amount of automation."

https://medium.com/@erin_gallagher/honduras-network-visualizations-of-johbots-909bdda5adc0

La Prensa published some more details on the corruption investigation by MACCIH and the MP of the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo.

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1139622-410/corrupcion-honduras-pani-rosa_elen_lobo-maccih-cna-exprimera_dama-

Now it is the turn of El Heraldo to speak with the new head of the Armed Forces, René Orlando Ponce Fonseca.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1139598-466/nuestra-gran-misi%C3%B3n-ser%C3%A1-mantener-los-%C3%ADndices-criminales-lo-m%C3%A1s-bajo-posible>

The new head of the National Police Force, meanwhile, will be presented latest on January 20.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1139599-466/depuradora-afina-propuesta-para-director-de-polic%C3%ADa>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1139603-508/tse-frente-amplio-y-vamos-seguir-%C3%A1n-en-el-escenario-pol%C3%ADtico>

03/01/18

(Re)Elections - Repression, Protests, Opposition Alliance, JOH; PR; Homicide Rate; and Two More Prisons Closing

Sarah Kinoshian reports from San Pedro Sula for the Guardian on the repression taking place in Honduras. The article also reports on the US silence on the involvement of state security forces in the assassination of protesters. The article ends with the following statement of Mariela Hernández whose brother was murdered by the Military Police: "This whole country is in mourning – there are so many killings and no justice. I can't get my brother back, but the resistance will go on. Juan Orlando is not my president."

CPAL emitted an updated version of its public letter denouncing the threats against Padre Melo and other religious leaders in Honduras. Now there is also an English version of the letter.

This has been taken up in the meantime by the National Catholic Reporter as well as America Magazine.

Part of the repression, i.e. its verbal support, also comes from the Catholic church in Honduras in form of Cardinal Óscar Andrés Rodríguez. The human rights defender Dina Meza fears that the repression will only grow with the announced inauguration of JOH's second term.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/02/us-silent-as-honduras-protesters-killed-in-post-election-violence>

See Attachment

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/world/jesuits-denounce-threats-against-outspoken-honduran-priest-activists>

<https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2018/01/02/jesuits-issue-open-letter-denouncing-grave-threats-against-honduran>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/nos-quieren-quitar-la-paz-quemando-llantas-y-saqueando-negocios-cardenal-rodriguez.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/02/advierten-mas-represion-en-honduras-cuando-joh-reasuma-mandato/>

Pasos de Animal Grande speaks with the Honduran writer Venus Itxel Mejía on the need to conquer the fear spread by the JOH regime and take to the streets and protest.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1994-venus-itxel-escritora-hondurena-el-gobierno-nos-quiere-en-silencio-pero-hay-que-romperlo-y-alzar-la-pluma-con-valentia-para-que-el-pueblo-eche-a-perder-los-miedos>

The Opposition Alliance asked in its press conference yesterday the presidential candidate of the Liberal Party, Luis Zelaya, to join the Alliance and together get JOH out of power.

They called January the month of civil disobedience and announced a new protest for Saturday at 2pm in San Pedro Sula.

They also announced that the Alliance's congresswo/men won't participate in the announced inauguration of JOH in Congress (see below).

Nasralla denounces that the JOH regime is using paramilitary forces to

repress the Honduran people protesting against the electoral fraud.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/02/alianza-pide-luis-zelaya-se-incorpore-al-bloque-opositor/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/02/enero-sera-mes-la-desobediencia-civil-salvador-nasralla/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2627-nasralla-este-enero-sera-mas-recordado-que-junio-de-2009>

<http://tiempo.hn/salvador-nasralla-anuncia-movilizacion/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/02/41236/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/02/gobierno-joh-esta-enviando-armas-dinero-gente-civil-sector-norte-del-pais-salvador-nasralla/>

JOH announced that he will start his second term on January 27 and he claims that the transition from his first to his second term is characterized by international support...

And at the same time, he and his allies continue to promote a highly questionable dialogue.

It goes so far that El Heraldo is already writing that "the congressmen of the new National Congress (CN) will approve the electoral reforms which are based on the census reached by the political parties in the national dialogue convoked by the president Juan Orlando Hernández." Salvador Nasralla points out that a real dialogue would be between the conflicting parties under international mediation.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/02/hernandez-anuncia-una-toma-sencilla-27-enero/>

<http://tiempo.hn/toma-de-posesion-sera-sencilla-y-austera/>

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1139715-410/honduras-elecciones-juan_orlando_hernandez-alianza-nasralla-mel_zelaya-tse

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/el-dialogo-es-la-mejor-opcion-ricardo-maduro.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/tanto-gobierno-como-oposicion-deben-flexibilizar-para-buscar-un-verdadero-dialogo-raul-pineda.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/hay-que-construir-espacios-de-entendimiento-que-garanticen-un-dialogo-sobre-reformas-electorales-miguel-calix.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1139851-508/nuevo-congreso-aprobar%C3%A1-reformas-pol%C3%ADtico-electorales>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/02/salvador-nasralla-dialogo-partes-conflicto/>

OFRANEH published an important article on Honduras' PR firm of choice, Keybridge Communications.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/01/02/keybridge-communication-y-el-lavado-de-imagen-de-la-narcodemocracia-hondurena/>

El Pulso reports on the claimed reduction in the homicide rate. According to the National Police Force, the homicide rate fell by 26.4% to 42,8 homicides per 100'000 inhabitants.

<http://elpulso.hn/policia-hondurena-reporta-reduccion-de-tasa-de-homicidios/>

<http://tiempo.hn/tasa-de-homicidios-en-honduras/>

The National Penitentiary Institute (INP) announced the closure of two more prisons, the one in La Ceiba and the one in La Esperanza.

<http://tiempo.hn/cierre-de-dos-centros-penales-en-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/centros-penales-de-la-ceiba-y-la-esperanza-proximos-a-ser-cerrados.html>

04/01/18

(Re)Elections - Repression, Protests, Dialogue, US, Congress, Liberal Party, JOH; US; Homicide Rate; and Running Life, Stalling Analysis

Álvaro Verzi Rangel writes about the invention of an internal enemy by the JOH regime in an attempt to legitimize the state violence against protesters.

Criterio reports on the ongoing repression and intimidation by the Military Police.

More media outlets have taken up the threats against Padre Melo and other human rights defenders.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190108>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/03/militares-honduras-continuan-franca-violacion-los-derechos-humanos/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/1995-padre-melo-el-dialogo-es-tapadera-pero-de-olla-de-presion>

Juliette Handal, the former president of the business lobby COHEP, calls for ongoing peaceful protests and a dialogue through international mediation.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/03/empresaria-pide-a-hondurenos-seguir-con-las-protestas-pacificas/>

Radio Progreso explains why in the current Honduras - which are two countries, one of fantasies and one of millions of unemployed - the dialogue convoked by JOH is a big part of the problem, not the solution.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4154-los-parches-que-no-resuelven-03-enero-2018>

US congressman Keith Ellison wrote an Op-Ed in the Huffington Post condemns the fraudulent elections in Honduras, which he sees as the culmination of a development whose warning signs have been ignored by the US.

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/we-must-thwart-the-rising-oligarchy-in-the-united-states_us_5a4d0086e4b025f99e1f3f30

The Liberal Party apparently supports the idea that an Alliance congresswoman or man is the new president of the Honduran Congress. The reelected congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez is not as optimistic and believes that the National Party's control of Congress is already a done deal.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/03/partido-liberal-apoyara-integrante-la-alianza-presidente-del-congreso-nacional/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/03/junta-directiva-del-congreso-ya-esta-amarrada-doris-gutierrez/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/03/nacionalistas-reafirmaran-el-control-del-parlamento-otros-cuatro-anos-mas/>

And there are still voices in the Liberal Party more aligned with JOH.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/03/elvin-santos-pide-los-liberales-aceptar-dialogo-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/partido-liberal-debe-participar-en-el-dialogo-nacional-del-presidente-herandez-elvin-santos.html>

A recent statement by the German government is interpreted by the main media as a recognition of JOH as the winner. Nevertheless, the statement only says that Germany "took note" of the proclamation of the electoral results.

Interestingly, El Tiempo, which in the past has stood out sometimes for a more critical view, headlines with the call for dialogue.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/director-casa-alianza-el-informe-de-la-pn-est%C3%A1-fuera-de-la-realidad-nacional>

<http://tiempo.hn/alemania-reconoce-a-juan-orlando-herandez/>

An investigative report by Wendy Funes highlights the lobby efforts by the JOH regime in the US to guarantee access to US funds. Most cynical of all was the use of the murder of Berta Cáceres as part of this effort, by pretending that the arrests made in Honduras were of great significance. Another strategy is the focus on the claimed reduction in homicides and extortions, but both is highly contested, even more because access to data after the introduction of the Secrecy Law has become even more difficult for neutral observers.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/03/gobierno-de-honduras-gasto-millones-en-lobbistas-e-hizo-lobby-con-asesinato-de-berta-caceres-y-con-reduccion-de-homicidios/>

One critical voice of the claimed reduction in homicide is the director of Casa Alianza, José Guadalupe Ruelas, who reacts to yesterday's presentation by the Security Secretariat of the newest numbers.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/03/arroz-con-tuercas/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/director-casa-alianza-el-informe-de-la-pn-est%C3%A1-fuera-de-la-realidad-nacional>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/03/las-ideas-al-trote-los-hechos-al-galope/>

05/01/18

(Re)Elections - HRDs, Repression, OAS, US, Political Opposition, Congress, Dialogue, JOH; ZEDEs; Extortion; Child Labor; Catholic Church; MP; National Police; Budget; Teen Pregnancy; and a New Year of Uncertainty

Padre Melo as well as the congressman for Libre, Bartolo Fuentes presented a legal complaint to the MP denouncing the hate campaigns against them in El Progreso.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/diputado-bartolo-fuentes-padre-melo-interponen-denuncia-mp-campana-odio/>

According to reports by Criterio, the Military Police shot against protesters in Choluteca.

Criterio also reports on the arrest of five men who were protesting against the electoral fraud.

While COFADEH documented 34 murders relating to the post-electoral protests and CONADEH recognized 31, the director of forensic medicine in Tegucigalpa tries to lower the number to 24.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/militares-tienen-sitiado-choluteca-le-disparan-la-gente/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/04/militares-atacan-a-manifestantes-y-periodistas-en-choluteca/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/choluteca-capturan-cinco-hombres-protestaban-fraude-electoral/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/04/jefa-forense-reduce-a-24-muertos-por-crisis-poselectoral-en-honduras/>

OAS General Secretary Luis Almagro works towards the OAS member states approving its electoral report on Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/luis-almagro-busca-oea-apruebe-informe-electoral-honduras/>

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Rep. Eliot Engel, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, released a new joint statement denouncing "the Trump Administration's decision to recognize President Hernandez as the winner of the election — despite the overwhelming evidence of widespread irregularities documented by the OAS and European Union electoral observation mission". They also expressed their deep concern about the "extrajudicial killings of protesters committed by the Honduran Military Police".

<https://engel.house.gov/latest-news1/cardin-engel-reiterate-concerns-ahead-of-honduran-presidential-inauguration-amid-ongoing-political-crisis/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/principales-senadores-estadounidenses-preocupados-toma-posesion-joh-medio-crisis/>

The Liberal Party held conversations with the Opposition Alliance and according to Luis Zelaya, it is possible that they will officially join the protests against the fraud.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/partido-liberal-platicas-la-alianza-no-descarta-unirse-al-bloque-opositor/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/luis-zelaya-dice-tener-apoyo-de-la-base-del-pl-para-negociar-con-la-alianza-presidencia-del-cn.html>

Luis Zelaya reiterates that the presidency of the Congress belongs to the opposition.

He is backed up by the Liberal congressman Yuri Sabas.

The only UD congressman, Mario Noé Villafranca, believes that JOH will decide on who heads Congress.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/no-se-debe-dejar-el-poder-absoluto-al-pn-luis-zelaya>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/sabases-necesario-que-la-presidencia-del-cn-sea-precedida-por-la-oposici%C3%B3n>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/joh-quien-va-poner-presidente-del-congreso-mario-noe-villafranca/>

Ebal Díaz, the secretary of the Council of Ministers, suddenly speaks of the possibility of an "international facilitator" to participate in the dialogue. This is still not what is needed, i.e. an international independent mediator that leads the dialogue, not a facilitator that supports a JOH-dominated dialogue.

Luis Zelaya discards the participation of the Liberal Party in a dialogue in the current setting.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/ebal-d%C3%ADaz-%E2%80%9Cse-analiza-la-presencia-de-un-facilitador-internacional-para-el-gran-di%C3%A1logo>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1140467-508/sectores-sugieren-buscar-a-mediador-de-alto-nivel-para-el-di%C3%A1logo>

<http://tiempo.hn/luis-zelaya-pl-dialogo-nacional/>

Another country, Italy, "took notice" of the pronouncement by the TSE and as before, the Honduran State takes it as a recognition of the fraudulent reelection by JOH.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/italia-felicita-al-presidente-hernandez-por-triunfo-en-elecciones-generales.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1140466-508/italia-y-orden-de-malta-reconocen-triunfo-de-juan-orlando-hern%C3%A1ndez>

OFRANEH published the response they got from the Inter-American Development Bank regarding the latter's support of ZEDEs.

<https://ofraneh.files.wordpress.com/2018/01/respuesta-a-oficio-ofraneh2.jpg>

Even though the JOH regime tries to pretend otherwise, extortion remains a big challenge for Honduras as the newest events in the transport sector in this young year show.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/la-extorsi%C3%B3n-contin%C3%BA-derramando-sangre-en-el-transporte-p%C3%BAblico-del-pa%C3%ADs>

El Tiempo reports on child labor in Honduras.

<http://tiempo.hn/menor-trabaja-desde-los-cinco-anos-familia/>

Galel Cárdenas reflects on the two Catholic authorities of contemporary Central America, Oscar Arnulfo Romero and Oscar Andrés Rodríguez. Or as he writes: "One is a continental pride, the other a public embarrassment."

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/honduras-oscar-arnulfo-romero-oscar-andres-rodriguez-mistico-perfido/>

Franklin Efraín Ortez Zúniga, a public prosecutor at the MP in San Pedro Sula, was shot at on his way home and one bullet hit his back. He was brought to a medical center.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/atentan-contr-fiscal-del-ministerio-publico-en-choluteca.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1140496-466/atentan-contr-fiscal-del-ministerio-p%C3%BAblico-en-choluteca>

Police agents arrested a 97-year old Honduran man for civil disobedience... Omar Rivera speaks up the newly created Bureau of Disciplinary Police Matter (Didapol).

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/04/honduras-lecho-enfermo-capturan-anciano-97-anos/>

<http://tiempo.hn/capturan-anciano-en-juticalpa/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/04/con-la-didapol-se-demostrara-que-quien-la-hace-la-paga-omar-rivera/>

The Finance Minister Wilfredo Cerrato officially confirmed that they will continue to work with last year's budget.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/%E2%80%9Cse-har%C3%A1-uso-del-mismo-presupuesto-aprobado-durante-el-2017%E2%80%9D-cerrato>

The pregnancy rate of adolescents rose by 15% last year in comparison to 2016.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/04/embarazos-adolescentes-incrementan-15/>

<http://elpulso.hn/ano-nuevo-incertidumbre/>

HRDs; (Re)Elections - Repression, Protests, TSE, JOH, Political Opposition, Dialogue, US, Analysis; MACCIH; National Police; and Revolution or Barbarism

Pasos de Animal Grande published an important overview of the Protection Mechanism and its lacks, which become even more evident in times like these, e.g. that the same public institution repressing human rights defenders are then called upon to protect them.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/1996-abarrotado-de-solicitudes-el-mecanismo-de-proteccion-por-grave-situacion-de-derechos-humanos-en-honduras>

Aqui Abajo is back with a summary of the events of the last days in Honduras.

<http://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2018/1/5/day-37-2017-election-crisis-fraud>

Reporteros de Investigación covers the nightly raids by the Military Police which sow terror in the streets of Honduras.

MADJ wrote an open letter to state security forces demanding a stop to the repression of the Honduran people.

Radio Progreso explains in a new article the result of this repression, when looking at the "human cost of the electoral fraud".

The Miami Herald reports on one of the first victims of state violence after the elections on November 26, Kimberly Dayana Fonseca. "On Dec. 1, as Honduran Military Police enforced the first night of a curfew imposed following the country's contested presidential elections, Fonseca stood to the side of a street occupation where several dozen young people protested the incumbent president. Witnesses say a rifle bullet — allegedly fired by the security force into the crowd — struck Fonseca in the forehead, blew out the back of her skull and killed her instantly."

The Alignment against Continuity held a press conference yesterday at COFADEH. In their new report going up to December 30, 30 murders can be linked to state security forces.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/05/terror-en-la-noche-militares-sin-rostro-allanan-casas-detienen-y-listan-a-civiles-opuestos-a-la-dictadura/>

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/05/Carta-abierta-del-MADJ-a-las-fuerzas-de-seguridad-del-Estado-%C2%A1Alto-a-la-brutalidad-en-contra-del-pueblo>

<http://radioprogreso.hn/~rprog/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4161-muertes-violentes-uso-excesivo-de-la-fuerza-y-persecuci%C3%B3n-el-costo-humano-del-fraude-electoral>

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/article193160329.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/05/convergencia-atribuye-mas-de-30-muertes-al-estado-de-honduras/>

Radio Progreso published a new article which concentrates on the participation of Honduras' youth in the protests. The editors of the America Magazine call out to join the protests for democracy in Honduras as advocated among others by Padre Melo. The main media continues to criminalize the protest and accuses its participants of causing Honduras a big economic cost.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/~rprog/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4158-juventud-se-moviliza-ante-imposici%C3%B3n-de-dictadura-en-honduras>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/protestas-violentas-llevan-un-retroceso-y-generan-un-coste-econ%C3%B3mico-alt%C3%ADsimo>

<https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2018/01/05/editors-citizens-honduras-must-fight-democracy-and-we-must-stand-them>

It sadly comes not as a surprise that the TSE rejected the challenges presented against the electoral results.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/05/tse-desecha-las-acciones-nulidad-presentadas-proceso-electoral-del-26-noviembre/>

<http://tiempo.hn/sin-lugar-impugnaciones-segun-el-tse/>

And no surprise either is the fact that the Patriotic Alliance is now willing to join an alliance with the National Party, even though its leader and coup general Romeo Vásquez Velásquez just weeks ago called out the the armed forces to stop JOH's reelection bid.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/05/romeo-vasquez-dispuesto-alianza-partido-nacional/>

<http://tiempo.hn/alianza-patriotica-apoyara-pn/>

Libre called for nationwide strikes in the week leading to JOH's imposition on January 27. Radio Progreso offers an overview of the most recent discussion between the Liberal Party and the Opposition Alliance.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/01/1-libre-integrara-bloque-de-oposicion-2.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/libre-convoca-a-paro-nacional-del-20-al-27-de-enero.html>

<http://radioprogreso.hn/~rprog/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4160-liberales-y-alianza-buscan-crear-bloque-opositor-en-el-congreso-nacional>

According to the sociologist Eugenio Sosa, JOH is trying to sell the picture of a conciliatory approach to the protests to the world, but his proposed dialogue offers no prospective for a way forwards.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/05/dialogo-de-joh-es-una-estrategia-para-vender-al-mundo-imagen-conciliadora-sociologo1/>

The editorial staff of the National Catholic Reporter accuses US policy to perpetuate violence in Honduras taking up a comparison to the terror in the 1980s made by the Honduran human rights defender Luther Castillo. Padre Melo believes that the situation is even worse than in the 1980s.

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/us-policy-perpetuates-violence-honduras>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/05/sacerdote-jesuita-estamos-peor-que-en-la-decada-de-1980/>

Speaking with the Radio Station KPFA, "Ryan Morgan, an advocate with the International Team with Witness for Peace, gives an update on the demonstrations against Hernandez, his Administration's violent crackdown against the protests, and widespread human rights violations."

<https://kpfa.org/episode/upfront-january-5-2018/>

Proceso Digital presents what it believes to be the main challenges of the MACCIH in 2018.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/los-desafios-de-la-maccih-en-2018.html>

The new leadership of the National Police Force will take over on January 15.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1140745-466/nueva-c%C3%BApula-de-la-polic%C3%ADa-nacional-asumir%C3%ADa-el-15-de-enero>

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190159>

07/01/18

(Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, US, JOH; Minimum Wage; and on the Way to Two Inaugurations

Hondurans took to the streets of various Honduran cities to call for the resignation of JOH. A big protest took place in San Pedro Sula. Both Salvador Nasralla and Manuel Zelaya spoke to the crowds there, as well as in El Progreso.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/41468/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2630-honduras-indignada-norte-y-occidente-se-movilizan-contrafraude>

<http://tiempo.hn/megamarcha-en-sps/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/41486/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/41470/>

FUSINA tries to legitimize its repression against protesters in a press release.

The National Party continues to denigrate the protests. Ironically, now they even try to blame the failure of the Trans-450 infrastructure project on them.

Oscar Miguel Marroquín presents the repression by the JOH regime as a weakness which will accelerate its downfall.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/06/fusina-adviertere-represion-contraopositores-que-cometan-vandalismo/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/06/ricardo-alvarez-les-dice-los-siguen-peleando-modo-construi-trans-450-tito-lo-modifico-nasralla-lo-quemo/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/06/nacionalistas-alaban-construccion-del-fallido-proyecto-trans-450/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/joh-la-represion-mala-consejera/>

In an act of protest, Hondurans dropped piles of garbage outside of the US embassy for accompanying and trying to legitimize the electoral fraud in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/indignados-honduras-tiran-montana-basura-frente-la-embajada-ee-uu/>

According to Criterio, JOH plans to hold his inauguration in the National Stadium "Tiburcio Carías Andino" on January 27. This

contradicts previous statements by him, in which he spoke of a simple ceremony. Criterio believes that the new approach is an intent to challenge the opposition which called for a week of protest leading up to the inauguration and may hold its proper inauguration of Salvador Nasralla as the president.

Taiwan already announced its presence at JOH's inauguration.

El Salvador announced after the Honduran elections, that it won't yet recognize a winner. Now it joined the list of countries which "took notice" of the declarations by the TSE calling JOH the winner.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/hernandez-planea-la-toma-presidencial-estado-nacional-tegucigalpa/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/vicepresidente-de-taiwan-asistira-a-toma-de-posesion-de-juan-orlando-hernandez.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/el-salvador-reconoce-a-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/el-salvador-reconoce-al-presidente-hernandez-y-anuncia-seguiran-trabajando-como-paises-hermanos.html>

El Tiempo reports on a planned meeting between different sectors about a raise to the minimum wage.

<http://tiempo.hn/determinaran-el-aumento-al-salario-minimo/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4155-las-dos-tomas-05-enero-2018>

08/01/17

(Re)Elections - Journalists, Repression, Protests, Catholic Church, Armed Forces, Dialogue, JOH, Analysis; Armed Forces; National Police; Insecurity; Mining; Public Debt; Economy; and Trump's Central American Hell

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the important work by social communicators in Ocotepeque to independently inform about the protests and state repression becoming targets of repression themselves.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1997-honduras-comunicadores-han-decenido-vencer-el-miedo-ante-el-estado-de-terror-impuesto-en-ocotepeque>

Contra Corriente portrays the grieving parents of the 26-year old Wilmer Paredes close to the house of his mother. He was a community leader helping to organize the protest against the electoral fraud. Aqui Abajo published part one of a summary of the human rights violations in the post-electoral crisis in Honduras. They cite an important section of a press release by the Alignment against Continuity: "[t]he imposition and implementation of the electoral fraud to complete the re-election of Juan Orlando Hernandez in violation of the rule of law and the Honduran Constitution, places us again, before another coup d'état. This has provoked the indignation and protest of an unprotected and defenseless population whose weapons are chants, rocks, sticks, burned tires, and trees dragged across roads, against strong repression by the State armed with tanks, tear gas, live bullets, manipulation of the media and that fulfill the orders of a regime strengthened with the recognition of foreign governments that with their decision, favor the grave violation of human rights." Further, the summary covers forced disappearance by the Military Police and arrests and criminalization of protesters and human rights defenders. Criterio published a Spanish version of the recent article on the murder of the 19-year old Kimberly Dayana Fonseca by state security forces. It is more than dubious that in such a context Omar Rivera calls out to all political leader: "It is not worth to endanger the peace of a nation

for personal or group interests." Which peace?

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/07/la-voz-sentida-los-territorios/>

<http://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2018/1/7/terrorizing-the-anti-fraud-resistance-human-rights-abuses-committed-by-us-and-canadian-funded-state-security-forces-in-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/07/familia-kimberly-dayana-fonseca-asesinada-las-protestas-honduras-clama-justicia/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/07/omar-rivera-no-se-vale-poner-riesgo-la-paz/>

Hondurans protested outside of the Central Bank of Honduras (BCH) against its recent statement that bank notes with "Fuera JOH" are not valid anymore. The protesters stuck such notes to the BCH's building. The Opposition Alliance announced new protests in Tegucigalpa for this Friday.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/07/tapizan-muros-del-banco-central-de-billetes-marcados-con-fuera-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/grupo-de-manifestantes-de-la-alianza-llegan-al-bch-y-pegan-billetes-manchados-en-paredes.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/alianza-convoca-a-gran-movilizacion/>

Cardinal Óscar Andrés Rodríguez continues to denigrate the political opposition and the protesters.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/07/mientras-cardenal-arremete-sutilmente-contrala-oposicion/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/07/los-que-siembran-odio-y-arruinan-el-pais-niegan-derecho-a-protestar-contrael-fraude-zelaya-al-cardenal/>

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle wrote an open letter to the Armed Forces reminding them that they are repressing the Honduran people who uses its constitutional right to overthrow an usurping government. He calls on them to join the people in this important endeavor.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/07/somos-la-patria-mensaje-los-soldados-honduras/>

El Tiempo published a list of possible mediators for the proposed dialogue in Honduras.

<http://tiempo.hn/facilitadores-del-dialogo-nacional/>

The IMF apparently reassured the JOH regime that it continues working with it.

<http://tiempo.hn/fmi-reafirma-su-apoyo-a-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/fmi-da-apoyo-al-presidente-hernandez-para-su-nuevo-programa-economico.html>

In an electoral super year for Latin America (Costa Rica, Paraguay, Colombia, Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela will go to the polls in the coming 12 months), El País concludes that it is "indispensable" to look at the electoral crisis in Honduras.

https://elpais.com/internacional/2018/01/07/actualidad/1515279981_533683.html

The Armed Forces are about to receive new communication equipment by Israel's Armed Forces.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1141210-466/israel-alista-la-primera-entrega-de-equipo-a-las-fuerzas-armadas-de>

A recently arrested man was found hanging from the ceiling in his cell. According to ConfidencialHN, the circumstances of his death were rather suspicious.

El Heraldo presents the three remaining candidates for the new head of the National Police Force.

<http://tiempo.hn/ahorcado-en-celda/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/07/misterioso-suicidio-de-hondureno-arrestado-por-la-policia/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1141211-466/tres-oficiales-se-disputan- Jefatura-de-la-polic%C3%ADa-nacional-en-honduras>

Agustina Grasso traveled to San Pedro Sula to report on the violence and insecurity that still takes hold of the city and which got worse in the post-electoral context.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/07/viaje-al-pais-mas-violento/>

Gold exports rose by 10% compared to 2016.

<http://tiempo.hn/exportaciones-de-oro-hondureno/>

Public debt rose to 48.5%.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/07/gobierno-de-honduras-admite-que-la-deuda-esta-al-40-por-ciento-del-pib1/>

At the same time, CEPAL lauds Honduras for its economic growth.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/cepal-honduras-logro-uno-de-los-mejores-crecimientos-economicos-de-la-region.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/06/trump-infierno-centroamericano/>

09/01/18

(Re)Elections - HRDs; Repression, Protests, TSE, Dialogue, Liberal Party, JOH, US; Armed Forces; Sexual Violence; MACCIH; Worker's Rights; Corruption; IHSS; Domestic Violence, Basic Goods; Migration; and Venezuelan Stones

MADJ explains how they unsuccessfully tried to get help from the protection mechanism to guarantee the security of the young community leader Wilmer Paredes. Two days after MADJ's conversation with the lawyer of the mechanism, Paredes was murdered.

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/08/Wilmer-Paredes-asesinado-en-San-Juan-Pueblo-Instituciones-del-Estado-se-negaron-a-actuar-para-evitar-su-asesinato>

The International Human Rights Federation and its Latin American members denounce the post-electoral violence in Honduras in the form of the assassination, arbitrary detention and physical repression of protesters. They call on the members of the OAS to back up the call by its General Secretary to hold new elections, transparent ones under the auspices of an independent body.

Defensores en Línea reports on the forced disappearance of the 22-year old Manuel de Jesús Bautista Salvador after being arrested by the Military Police on December 3 in Naco, Cortés.

Libre congressman Juan Barahona denounces state violence against protesters and the incarceration of them. He assured that they will work towards justice and that those arrested can count with the help of Libre and the Opposition Alliance.

The Armed Forces, meanwhile, present themselves as victims of violent protesters and they continue their storyline of foreign infiltrators of the protests.

Both Criterio and ConfidencialHN do not agree and writing about further increases in military repression.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-los-estados-miembros-de-la-oea-deben-pronunciarse-ante-la-agudizacion-de-la-crisis-electoral/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/jose-rafael-bautista-ayudenme-a-encontrar-a-mi-hermano/>

<http://elpulso.hn/juan-barahona-independientemente-de-que-la-gente-haya-saqueado-esos-companeros-deben-de-recibir-nuestro-auxilio/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/ffaa-rechazan-tono-violento-de-las-protestas-de-la-oposicion.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/represion-militar-se-incrementa-honduras/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/07/urgente-denuncian-acoso-militar-en-choluteca-contra-opositores/>

JOH warns of new repression if the Honduran people follow through with their week of protest leading up to his inauguration on January 27.

The Independent covered the most recent protests taking place in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/hernandez-advierte-las-fuerzas-seguridad-del-estado-estan-listas-reprimir-los-manifestantes/>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/honduras-protest-election-fraud-juan-orlando-hernandez-salvador-nasralla-manuel-zelaya-a8146501.html?S2ref=863291>

The Anti-Corruption Lawyers Association presented a writ of amparo at the Constitutional Chamber against the decision by the TSE not to take up the challenges against the presidential elections.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/08/interponen-recurso-contra-decision-del-tribunal-electoral-por-desesetimar-impugnaciones1/>

Criterio reports on lobbying efforts in the US by NGOs close to the JOH regime to whitewash the fraud and present a discredited dialogue as the way forwards.

And just to make sure how much in control JOH is of the dialogue, he felt compelled to add that they may be open for a mediator, but his government will be the main protagonist of the dialogue.

According to El Heraldo, he will convoke a dialogue at the end of this week.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/representantes-tres-ong-afines-joh-hacen-lobby-usa-blanquear-fraude/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/apoyo-internacional-para-reformas-politico-electorales-busca-sociedad-civil-hondurena.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/presidente-honduras-dice-gobierno-sera-protagonista-del-dialogo/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1141520-508/presidente-juan-orlando-hernandez-espera-convocar-di%C3%A1logo-a-finales-de-esta-semana>

Luis Zelaya challenges the former Liberal president Carlos Flores Facussé to publish an editorial against the reelection and the continuity of JOH in La Tribuna, which Flores Facussé owns.

He also confirmed a meeting with Manuel Zelaya to discuss a joint opposition block in Congress.

Even if this block manifests itself, they only have 60 seats out of the 128 seats.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/luis-zelaya-invita-carlos-flores-escriba-editorial-la-reeleccion-continuismo/>

<http://tiempo.hn/luis-zelaya-anuncia-que-se-reunira/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/luis-zelaya-pide-que-la-oposicion-lidere-el-congreso-para-asegurar-la-gobernabilidad-en-el-pais.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1141519-466/el-partido-nacional-ya-contar%C3%ADa-con-m%C3%A1s-de-65-votos-para-elegir>

The Czech Republic congratulated JOH for his "victory" while the UK only "took notice" as did some other European countries. JOH held a press conference pretending the elections had gone smoothly and presented his goals for the next four years.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/republica-checa-felicita-a-hernandez-por-su-triunfo-en-las-elecciones.html>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/08/reino-unido-reconoce-triunfo-juan-orlando/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/generacion-de-empleos-y-reducir-mas-tasa-de-homicidios-la-meta-del-gobierno-este-2018.html>

Jacobin published an analysis by Alexander Main on the role of the US in "obstructing the country's democracy". He offers a historic perspective going back to the 1980s when Honduras became a "launching pad for the Reagan administration's war on left movements and governments in Central America".

<https://jacobinmag.com/2018/01/honduras-election-juan-orlando-hernandez-nasralla>

Honduras and Chile agreed to more cooperation between their Armed Forces.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/honduras-y-chile-destacan-relaciones-en-el-campo-militar.html>

El Tiempo reports on a sexual abuse case involving a Catholic priest in Danlí, El Paraíso.

<http://tiempo.hn/padre-german-flores/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/08/sepa-como-el-sacerdote-german-flores-ultrajo-a-dama-que-fallecio-de-cancer/>

The MACCIH reacts to rumors regarding the departure of one of its assessors. According to them, the German assessor Jan Michael Simon normally finished his contract and returned to his job in Germany.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/jimenez-mayor-confirma-que-jan-michael-simon-dejo-la-maccih-y-retorno-a-cargo-en-alemania.html>

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1141548-410/honduras-corrupcion-maccih-jan_michel_simon-reforma_penal-

Workers at the nine banana farms belonging to Chiquita Honduras stopped working in protest of being denied access to health care facilities.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4162-por-violaci%C3%B3n-al-derecho-a-la-salud-obreros-bananeros-paralizan-laborales-en-honduras>

El Libertador reports on a corruption case involving invented medicine students to get access to 6.1 million Lempiras in scholarships.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2633-becarios-fantasmas-de-salud-publica-robaron-mas-de-seis-millones>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/a-las-puertas-requerimientos-fiscales-por-caso-de-becas-a-estudiantes-de-medicina-anuncia-el-mp.html>

After having been found guilty in the IHSS corruption case in an abbreviated trial, Ilsa Vanessa Molina Aguirre was sentenced to 12 years and 3 months in prison.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/08/condenan-a-12-anos-de-carcel-a-la-palillona-del-ihss/>

Criterio reports on prices rises manifesting themselves in the first day of 2018.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/comienzan-los-incrementos-los-servicios-productos-honduras/>

According to FUSINA, they made almost 3800 arrests for domestic violence last year.

<http://tiempo.hn/mas-de-3700-denuncias-por-violencia-domestica/>

El Pulso reports on the cancellation of the temporary protection status (TPS) for some 200'000 Salvadorians having lived in the US for almost 15 years.

Honduras had its status recently be extended to July 5, 2018.

<http://elpulso.hn/cancelan-el-tps-para-los-salvadorenos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/08/trump-anuncia-no-renovacion-tps-salvador-se-anuncia-crisis-humanitaria/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/minisitios/hondurenosel mundo/1141514-471/honduras-a-la-espera-de-que-reforma-migratoria-ampare-a-los-tepesianos>

In a justifiably polemic article, Oscar Miguel Marroquín highlights the absurdity of the accusations by JOH and media outlets close to him to blame Venezuela for promoting the protests in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/07/la-oposicion-recibe-piedras-garrotos-desde-venezuela/>

10/01/18

MADJ; Berta - Trial; (Re)Elections - Journalists; Repression, Armed Forces, Protests, OAS, Political Opposition, Political Parties, Dialogue, Congress, JOH, US; LGBTI; ZEDES; Privatization; History; and Article 3

A case of criminalization takes place today at 8.30am in Tela, when inhabitants of Pajuiles face trial for protesting against the hydroelectric project by HIDROCEP.

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/09/Vuelve-la-cacer%C3%ADa-en-Pajuiles-audiencia-inicial-en-contra-de-quienes-defienden-el-r%C3%ADo-Mezapa>

Radio HRN reports that the trial against the former SERNA vice-minister responsible for handing out the environmental license for Agua Zarca will continue.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/decreta-auto-de-apertura-juicio-contr-ex-vice-ministro-de-serna-por-caso-%E2%80%9Cagua-zarca%E2%80%9D>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/09/autorizan-juicio-contr-exfuncionario-por-autorizar-ilegalmente-agua-zarca/>

C-Libre denounces two cases of threats and attacks against journalists covering the post-electoral crisis. In one instance, soldiers destroyed the equipment of the cameraman Kevin Castillo covering the protests in Choluteca.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodista-recibe-amenazas-muerte-tras-difundir-informaci%C3%B3n-pol%C3%ADtica-partidaria>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/militares-le-queiebran-la-c%C3%A1mara-camar%C3%B3grafo-cobertura-de-manifestantes>

Casa Alianza counted 34 deaths as a result of the post-electoral protests, six of them were minors.

JOH, meanwhile, continues to back up his repressive forces by labeling the protesters as criminals.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/casa-alianza-registra-el-fallecimiento-de-34-personas-durante-crisis-pol%C3%ADtica>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/09/joh-reitera-persecucion-contra-delincuentes-y-justifica-allanamientos-en-choluteca1/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/09/joh-reitera-persecucion-contra-delincuentes-y-justifica-allanamientos-en-choluteca1/>

Radio Progreso highlights how JOH has bought the loyalty of the Armed Forces over years and how they became once more, just as in the 80s, an integral part of the governing system in Honduras. As a consequence, Radio Progreso holds the generals responsible for the repression of the Honduran people and the 31 assassinations recognized by CONADEH.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4163-los-perros-de-garra-09-enero-2018>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the ongoing protests in El Progreso, which resist heavy state repression.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/1998-el-enfoque-represivo-contra-manifestantes-de-el-progreso-yoro-no-ha-paralizado-las-protestas-contra-el-fraude-electoral>

Theodore Dale Vukanovich is still on his quest to defend the work of his company certifying the fraudulent Honduran elections against the "wrong information" by the OAS.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/gerente-empresa-transmisora-elecciones-honduras-califica-falso-informe-la-oea/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1141865-508/theodore-dale-si-informe-de-la-oea-no-lo-cambian-ir%C3%A9-a>

Javier Suazo believes that the new generation of Honduran politicians have failed to learn one lesson from history, i.e. at least since 1982, political parties have gone from spaces of democratic participation to feudalistic systems with a clear ownership. This has to be considered to get a better grasp on the crisis that currently unfolds in Honduras.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190237>

The Liberal Party announced that they will join the opposition block but they want the leadership of Congress. Criterio sees similarities to when they agreed to join the Opposition Alliance under the condition that they get to nominate the presidential candidate.

Luis Zelaya further told the press that their presidency of Congress would in no way recognize JOH as the winner of the presidential reelection.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/liberales-se-unen-bloque-opositor-solo-presiden-congreso-nacional-luis-zelaya/>

<http://tiempo.hn/pl-buscara-consensos-otros-partidos-presidir-la-presidencia-del-cn/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/09/luis-asegura-que-si-toman-el-congreso-no-reconoceran-a-joh-como-presidente/>

The five small parties, Patriotic Alliance, PAC, UD, DC and Frente Amplio all joined the pre-dialogue by JOH. This is no surprise, as those parties are seen by most analysts as outlets of the National Parties. In its with the help of these parties, that JOH believes to get the presidency of Congress.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/partidos-satelites-honduras-acuden-al-pre-dialogo-joh/>

<http://tiempo.hn/pre-dialogo-politico-en-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/hernandez-adelanta-partido-nacional-presidira-congreso/>

Luis Zelaya, meanwhile, demands that the vote for the new leadership of Congress will be public.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/votacion-elegir-junta-directiva-del-congreso-nacional-publica-luis-zelaya/>

As expected, JOH will hold his inauguration ceremony in the national stadium.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/esta-confirmado-joh-tomara-posesion-estadio-nacional/>

The US embassy announced that the US suspended its medical brigades to Honduras due to the protests. This is another form of criminalizing and denigrating the protests, and Proceso Digital jumps on it by emphasizing that the poor suffer now for the lack of these brigades.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/eeuu-suspende-brigadas-medicas-ante-protestas-de-la-alianza.html>

ConexiHon published an overview on the violence against the LGBTI community in Honduras. The article reports 280 assassinations since 2009, of which only 22% went to trial and even in some of these cases, no one was found guilty.

One particular case which came to some prominence in Honduras, is the murder of Walter Orlando Tróchez. ConexiHon published an article together with blog Adictos a la Verdad which focuses on German Mendoza, who was wrongfully jailed for Walter's murder for two years..

<http://www.conexihon.hn/las-280-muertes-vicky-hernandez>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/honduras-la-historia-jamas-contada-sobre-el-asesinato-de-walter-trochez>

According to a new report by ConexiHon, one of the first ZEDEs could be built on the island Exposición in the Golfo de Fonseca. The article shows the struggle of the 15 families living there against what the government calls "voluntary eviction".

<http://www.conexihon.hn/honduras-el-secreto-de-la-isla-exposicion-camino-la-instalacion-de-las-zedes>

Maybe it is part of preparing the grounds for another ZEDE, either way, El Libertador reports that the JOH regime stealthily privatized the San Lorenzo harbor in the south of Honduras. The announcement was made on December 27, in the midst of a post-electoral crisis mixed with Christmas celebrations.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2636-honduras-en-fiestas-de-navidad-gobierno-privatizo-puerto-de-san-lorenzo>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/09/gobierno-de-honduras-privatiza-el-puerto-de-san-lorenzo/>

El Pulso published an article and a short video on the last constituent assembly taking place in Honduras in 1980.

<http://elpulso.hn/la-ultima-asamblea-nacional-constituyente-de-honduras-1981/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/09/art-3-la-magna-carta-honduras/>

11/01/18

Journalists; (Re)Elections - Repression, OAS, Opposition Alliance, Congress, Political Opposition, JOH, Teachers; National Police; LGTBI; Drug Trafficking; US; Debt; Sexual Violence; Corruption; and the Limits of Patience

The journalist Jairo López denounces that the National Police time and time again failed to comply with the security measures granted to him by the protection mechanism.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/polic%C3%ADa-nacional-incumple-medidas-de-protecci%C3%B3n-de-periodista-otorgadas-por-el-mecanismo>

Radio Progreso reports on the silence by the MP regarding the assassinations of civilians by the Military Police and the Armed Forces. When they sought information about the investigations at the MP in San Pedro Sula, they were sent to Tegucigalpa. There, they were told that the results of the investigations haven't been brought up-to-date yet and that in 24 hours they will be presented to the media. Family members of Óscar Antonio Flores do not believe the explanation by the police that the 32-year old Óscar Antonio Flores hanged himself in a prison cell. He was detained by the police after participating in a protest and by the Opposition Alliance and when he later was found dead in his cell, he showed signs of beatings. In San Pedro Sula, meanwhile, the INTAE professor Santos Edelmiro Alvarado Córdova was murdered on Monday. According to his son, he could have been murdered for his support of the Opposition Alliance. The Central American human rights ombudsman offices denounce the repression in Honduras and demand investigations.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/~rprog/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4165-ministerio-p%C3%ABlico-guarda-silencio-ante-asesinatos-de-civiles-a-manos-de-militares>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/familiares-dudan-manifestante-la-alianza-se-haya-ahorcado-celda/>

<http://tiempo.hn/asesinato-de-profesor-del-intae/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/ombudsman-del-istmo-rechazan-violencia-delincuencial-represion-gubernamental-honduras/>

The OAS strikes back as the businessman Theodoro Dale Vukanovic continues to accuse them of publishing errors in its electoral report. The OAS wrote him now demanding that he certifies his accusations. They OAS stands by its report that the transmission system during the elections wasn't robust enough to withstand attempts of electoral fraud.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/oea-urge-empresa-transmitio-resultados-electorales-honduras-certifique-acusaciones/>

<http://tiempo.hn/dale-vukanovich-no-ha-presentado/>

The Opposition Alliance published a press release with its strategy for the coming days and weeks. Among other things, they will create an institutional Opposition Block against the Dictatorship, try to take control of Congress and demand the liberation of the hundreds of political prisoners as well as the investigation of the more than 45 extra-judicial executions.

See Attachment

Apparently, the political opposition decided on Mauricio Villeda, the

Liberal presidential candidate in 2013, for the position of the president of Congress.

<http://tiempo.hn/salvador-nasralla-propone-a/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/nasralla-sugiere-a-mauricio-villeda-como-presidente-del-congreso.html>

It seems as the Patriotic Alliance still tries to play both sides. Yesterday, its president Romeo Vásquez Velásquez met with Luis Zelaya and Salvador Nasralla.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/luis-zelaya-salvador-nasralla-y-romeo-vasquez-se-reunen-para-dialogar.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/10/el-general-en-su-laberinto-exjefe-militar-en-contra-de-politicos-tradicionales-pero-respaldara-a-joh/>

Radio Progreso directed a very frank open letter to JOH explaining that his illegal reelection bid is the worst scenario for the present and future of the Honduran society. Furthermore, they accuse him of he has caused unimaginable damage to Honduras. As a consequence, they ask him to step down.

According to the political analyst Víctor Meza, JOH won't succeed in governing Honduras with his electoral fraud haunting him. "A government born to fraudulent elections will die in the streets."

JOH, meanwhile, already thinks about 2021.

But at the same time, he urges Congress to legalize the one-time reelection.

UD congressman and doctor Mario Noé Villafranca admits that he supports JOH because the latter promised him the construction of a cancer hospital...

Proceso Digital and La Tribuna report that the Dominican Republic recognized JOH as the winner of the fraudulent presidential election.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4164-don-juan-orlando-hernandez-salga-con-la-frente-en-alto-10-enero-2018>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/gobierno-nace-falseando-las-urnas-muere-la-calle-victor-meza/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/10/se-prepara-el-presidente-de-honduras-para-repetir-un-tercer-mandato11/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2640-joh-reta-oposicion-advirtio-hoy-que-ganara-elecciones-en-2022>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/presidente-hernandez-pide-al-cn-que-apruebe-reforma-que-limita-reeleccion-presidencial.html>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2639-electores-repudian-el-si-a-joh-del-doctor-villafranca>

<http://tiempo.hn/diputado-udeista-afirma-que-apoyara-al-oficialismo-a-cambio-de-construccion-de-hospital-oncologico/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/republica-dominicana-felicita-a-hernandez-por-su-triunfo-en-las-elecciones.html>

Criterio investigates why the otherwise belligerent teachers' unions do not take to the streets to protest against JOH.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/dirigente-magisterial-dice-protestaban-abusaban-los-gobiernos/>

The former police commissioner María Luisa Borjas challenges the positive outlook by the purging committee on the changes to the National Police Force. She calls the purge "a farce".

<http://tiempo.hn/policia-nacional-farsa-maria-luisa-borjas/>

The IACtHR urged the Costa Rican government to recognize gay marriage. This decision has been welcomed by the LGBTI community in Honduras, even though the Honduran authorities stayed firm in rejection it.

<http://tiempo.hn/matrimonio-homosexual-en-costa-rica/>

<http://tiempo.hn/comunidad-lgbti-de-honduras-celebra/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/10/impedir-el-matrimonio-entre-personas-del-mismo-sexo-es-una-aberracion-juridica/>

Ramón "Monchito" Matta Waldurraga, son of the Honduran cartel head Ramón Mata, declared himself guilty for drug trafficking in a US court. At the same time, he wrote an open letter to the Honduran people denouncing a "systematic persecution" against his family. His trial is set for March 28.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/mata-waldurraga-se-declara-culpable-ante-corte-ee-uu-conspirar-trafficar-drogas/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/inicio/1142219-465/juan-ram%C3%B3n-matta-waldurraga-ser%C3%A1-sentenciado-el-28-de-marzo>

The US has announced the construction of a new embassy in Tegucigalpa.

<http://tiempo.hn/embajada-americana-construira/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/10/eeuu-construira-nuevo-edificio-embajada/>

Honduras has a record debt of \$632 million at the Inter-American Development Bank.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/la-cartera-crediticia-del-bid-asciende-632-millones-de-d%C3%B3lares>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/10/honduras-debe-al-banco-interamericano-de-desarrollo-casi-19-mil-millones-de-lempiras/>

The MP announced that they will investigate the accusation of child molesting by the evangelical priest Germán Flores in Danlí.

<http://tiempo.hn/sacerdote-german-flores/>

<http://tiempo.hn/detienen-a-pastor-evangelico-en-la-ceiba/>

The five congresswo/men accused of corruption will appear in court today.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1142206-466/honduras-a-audiencia-cinco-diputados-implicados-en-el-subsidiao>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/10/tanto-va-cantaro-al-agua/>



BLOQUE DE OPOSICION CONTRA LA DICTADURA

1. Crear el Bloque de Oposición institucional político contra la Dictadura. ✓
2. Ratificar el No reconocimiento a JOH, surgido de un proceso electoral fraudulento.
3. Reconocer que el presidente electo de Honduras es Salvador Nasralla. ✓
4. El Congreso Nacional será dirigido por la Oposición a la dictadura (consenso), con el objetivo de que Salvador Nasralla es el Presidente de la República. ✓
5. Oponerse y boicotear la juramentación de JOH en el Congreso y todo el territorio.
6. Integrar y apoyar el paro nacional convocado por la Alianza de Oposición del 20 al 25 de mayo y las movilizaciones, hasta que el Estado reconozca la Presidencia de la República de Salvador Nasralla.
7. Exigir la liberación de más de un centenar de presos políticos y de conciencia; e investigar por las más de 45 ejecuciones sumarias en el marco de las protestas del pueblo.
8. Nos oponemos al diálogo dirigido por el dictador. No vamos a legitimar el fraude electoral. No vamos a nombrar de común acuerdo (derecho a veto) un mediador frente a la crisis. Las negociaciones deben ser de carácter obligatorio, con categoría de ley. Plazo de duración del proceso: 30 días.
9. Practicar una auditoría forense y técnica al SIEDE, actas, cuadernillos y demás documentos electorales (por dos empresas especializadas nombradas por cada una de las partes).
10. Los resultados de la auditoría constituirán el punto de partida para la decisión de si el fraude que con seguridad ratificará el triunfo a favor de Salvador Nasralla. En caso de no haber sido con certeza plena el ganador, se debe convocar a nuevas elecciones obligatorias (segunda vuelta) conducidas por un Tribunal integrado por las fuerzas políticas que obtuvieron el 10% de la votación nacional y con una nueva Ley Electoral. Plazo: 6 meses máximo.
11. Gestionar ante la Sala Constitucional la resolución inmediata de los recursos de amparo y las resoluciones por las elecciones y la declaratoria emitidas por el TSE.
12. Reconocer el estado de insurrección del pueblo Hondureño tal como lo establece la Constitución de la República, ante la imposición de un Presidente surgido del fraude electoral.

12/01/18

(Re)Elections - Journalists, Repression, Protests, JOH, Canada, Congress, Electoral Reforms; LGBTI; Corruption; National Police; Armed Forces; US; Education; and He Who Sows the Wind Will Reap the Whirlwind

A new article by Pasos de Animal Grande shows how journalists covering the post-electoral protests became targets of state repression.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2000-hay-ataques-selectivos-a-periodistas-y-comunicadores-sociales-que-cubren-protestas>

COFADEH published its second report on the human rights violations taking place in post-electoral Honduras. It covers the period after from November 26 to December 31.

Radio Progreso now also reports on the mysterious death of Oscar Antonio Flores, who was found hanging from the ceiling of his prison cell after being arrested after a protest. His family does not believe that it was a suicide and his body showed signs of torture.

Family members of the victims of state violence jointly speak up against the criminalization of their loved ones and fight together with human rights organization to reclaim their dignity.

According to Amnesty International's Ismania Platero, Honduras owes the IACHR a report on the post-electoral violence.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/segundo-informe-del-cofadeh-violaciones-a-los-derechos-humanos-en-el-contexto-de-las-protestas-anti-fraude-en-honduras/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4167-misterio-rodea-muerte-de-joven-detenido-en-el-sur-de-honduras>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4169-organizaciones-de-derechos-humanos-buscan-reivindicar-la-dignidad-de-las-v%C3%ADctimas>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/cidh-la-espera-de-informe-oficial-sobre-muertes-violentas-durante-manifestaciones>

The Opposition Alliance announced a new protest for today from the Pedagogical University to the Casa Presidencial.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/no-va-a-poder-gobernar-que-tenga-la-plena-seguridad-que-la-oposicion-no-lo-dejara-nasralla-a-hernandez.html>

UD congressman Mario Noé Villafranca, who expressed his support for JOH after being promised a cancer hospital, seems to reconsider this after having this deal exposed in the media.

Criterio also published an open letter he received by the doctor Samuel Santos who calls his decision for supporting JOH an error.

Luis Zelaya announced that he will meet with him.

JOH, meanwhile, suffered another blow, as the Taiwanese vice-president canceled his presence at the inauguration on January 26. As a reason, he offered the most recent earthquake in Honduras.

At the same time, Vietnam and India congratulated JOH for his "victory".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/11/mario-noe-villafranca-reconsidera-apoyo-al-partido-nacional/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/11/carta-samuel-santos-mario-noe-villafranca/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/luis-zelaya-preve-reunion-con-diputado-electo-de-la-ud-mario-noe-villafranca.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/vicepresidente-taiwanés-cancela-su-asistencia-a-toma-de-posecion-de-hernandez.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-hernandez-es-felicitado-por-vietnam-por-sus-triunfo-en-las-elecciones-generales.html>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/11/india-envia-calidas-felicitaciones-juan-orlando-hernandez-triunfo-electoral/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on a petition by Canadian academics as well as civil society and student organizations denouncing that its government recognized the illegal and fraudulent reelection of JOH.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/elecciones-en-honduras-2017/item/2001-academicos-miembros-de-sociedad-civil-y-estudiantes-de-canada-critican-que-su-gobierno-haya-reconocido-a-joh-como-presidente>

The National Party created a special commission to meet with the political opposition to discuss the leadership of Congress.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/pn-crea-comision-que-buscara-reunirse-con-fuerzas-politicas-para-conformar-junta-directiva-del-cn.html>

JOH still hopes that Congress will legislate on the presidential reelection.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1142532-466/cn-podr%C3%ADa-retomar-debate-para-regular-la-reelecci%C3%B3n>

The ruling in favor of gay marriage by the IACtHR in Costa Rica causes fervent reactions by the conservative circles in Honduras. The notorious evangelical priest and JOH ally Evelio Reyes speaks of the "curse of gay marriage" and "an invention from hell"...

Mario Díaz, coordinator of the sentencing tribunal, demands that Congress discusses the possibility of gay marriages in Honduras.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/hay-que-hacer-algo-para-estorbar-la-maldici%C3%B3n-de-los-matrimonios-homosexuales-reyes>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/pastor-evelio-reyes-insta-a-no-permitir-perversion-de-la-sociedad-con-matrimonios-gay.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/matrimonio-entre-personas-del-mismo-sexo-debe-discutirse-en-el-congreso-mario-diaz.html>

The trial against the five congresswo/men for corruption was suspended and it should continue today.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/suspenden-audiencia-en-el-caso-red-de-diputados-que-continuara-manana.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/red-diputados-suspenden-audiencia/>

JOH presented José David Aguilar Morán as the new head of the National Police Force. Next to him, Orbin Alexis Galo Maldonado was nominated as the deputy director and Orlin Javier Cerrato as the inspector general. On the same occasion, eight senior police officials stepped down.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/11/jose-david-aguilar-moran-sera-nuevo-director-la-policia-nacional-partir-del-lunes/>

<http://tiempo.hn/nueva-cupula-de-la-policia-nacional-2/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/11/honores-despiden-siete-oficiales-la-policia/>

Together with support by Israel, Honduras will repair/upgrade four army helicopters and at least 12 war planes.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1142528-466/llegan-a-honduras-los-repuestos-para-aviones-de-la-fah>

As in previous year, the US recommends its citizens not to travel to

Honduras - the same Honduras whose regime it lauds and offered its support after a fraudulent election.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/11/estados-unidos-recomienda-ciudadanos-reconsiderar-viajar-honduras-debido-al-crimen/>

According to the president of the teachers' union Copehm, the infrastructure of the Honduran education system is on the brink of a collapse.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/entre-un-80-y-90-la-infraestructura-escolar-nivel-nacional-est%C3%A1-colapsada>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/11/presidente-hernandez-sembro-vientos-hoy-cosecha-tempestades/>

13/01/18

MILPAH; (Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, National Party, Analysis; HRDs; Corruption; Judicial Power; Armed Forces; National Police; Migration; Extradition; and the Missing Honduran Cinema

Defensores en Línea denounces that the MP has presented no meaningful result in the murder investigation of Enrique Gómez Vásquez and his four-year old daughter. Enrique is the brother of MILPAH leader Martín Gómez Vásquez.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/aun-no-se-aclara-muerte-de-familiares-de-dirigente-de-milpah/>

In a day of protests, Hondurans took to the streets throughout the country. In the main protest in Tegucigalpa, both Salvador Nasralla and Manuel Zelaya led the protests.

Proceso Digital cites Salvador Nasralla saying that they will protest everyday until JOH gets in a helicopter and leaves the country.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/alianza-opositora-se-movilizará-hoy-para-exigir-la-renuncia-de-hernandez/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/nasralla-dice-en-protesta-que-se-debe-impedir-toma-de-posesion-de-hernandez.html>

But the protests ended in a brutal crackdown by the state security forces. In a protest in the Bajo Aguán, the Permanent Human Rights Observatory of the Aguán (OPDHA) accompanied the protest and was threatened by the military.

One special target of the repression are journalists. C-Libre denounces attacks against journalists covering the protests outside of the Casa Presidencial. Members of the Armed Forces hit them and destroyed their material.

Criterio published a video with UneTV cameraman Pedro Amador who was attacked together with the journalist Rony Martínez by the Military Police. Another interview was held with Univisión correspondent Claudia Mendoza, who suffered the same fate.

El Heraldo felt the need to publish various photos of Manuel Zelaya being attacked with tear gas.

Secondary school teacher Santos Alvarado Córdova was buried with the Libre flag yesterday. "I want to take the struggle with me in my heart," he had told his sons while he was still alive. He, who actively participated in the post-electoral protests, was murdered in his house on Monday.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/12/masiva-movilizacion-tegucigalpa-termina-represion-militar/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2644-bestial-represion-militar-boicotea-protesta-de-oposicion-hondurena>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/oposicion-toma-edificio-del-futuro-palacio-gubernamental-son-reprimidos/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/militares-amenazan-a-defensoras-del-bajo-aguan/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/militares-agreden-periodistas-y-manifestantes>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/12/militares-honduras-reprimen-brutalmente-la-prensa/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/12/camarografo-unetv-relata-salvaje-golpiza-militares-honduras-la-prensa/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/12/honduras-militares-golpean-periodistas-unetv-les-destruyen-equipo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/12/corresponsal-univision-relata-fue-bestialmente-golpeada-militares-honduras/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/1142773-468/im%C3%A1genes-de-la-gaseada-a-manuel-zelaya-durante-marcha-de-la-alianza?mainImg=1>

<http://libertaddigital.news/home/envuelto-en-bandera-de-libre-entierran-a-profesor-del-intae/>

Once more, the National Party with the help of the main press tries to denigrate the protesters and the political opposition.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/juan-diego-zelaya-pide-a-libre-no-generar-mas-violencia-y-odio.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/se-quieren-sacar-un-clavo-vicepresidente-justifica-represion/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1142806-410/vandalismo-marcha-alianza-da%C3%B1os-tegucigalpa-heridos>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/12/protestas-dejan-considerables-danos-la-propiedad-privada/>

Radio Progreso published some thoughts regarding the dependence of Honduras on either side (JOH and anti-JOH) from international actors. They are they ones either helping to whitewash the illegal and fraudulent reelection by JOH or they stand with the Honduran people in defense of democracy.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4170-comp%C3%A1s-de-espera-12-enero-2018>

Resistencias published a portray of the Honduran human rights defender and feminist activist Suyapa Martínez Amador.

<https://mariacastroserantes.blogspot.ch/2018/01/suyapa-martinez-amador-politica.html>

Leaving the postponed trial, Dennys Sánchez, one of the accused congresswo/men for corruption, said that all politicians in Honduras have skeletons in their closet. It is doubtful that he made a convincing case for himself. The trial has been postponed to next Thursday.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/todo-politico-en-este-pais-tiene-un-muerto-en-el-closet-dice-diputado-sanchez.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/postergan-por-una-semana-resolucion-para-diputados-que-recibieron-dinero-publico/>

ConfidencialHN published an update of the trial against the national judge Liz Nuñez who is accused of having illegally freed two criminal cousins of the former vice-president of the Judiciary Council and now inmate Teodoro Bonilla.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/entregaran-evidencias-que-vinculan-a-jueza-con-liberacion-de-dos-mafiosos/>

Two members of the Armed Forces were sentenced to ten years in prison for violating a 25-year old woman.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/dos-exmilitares-condenados-a-10-anos-por-violacion.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/encarcelan-por-10-anos-a-exmilitares-que-abusaron-de-dama/>

After the announcement of the new leadership at the National Police Force, El Heraldo expects some further changes as they want to get allies into important position inside the police force.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1142799-466/viene-remez%C3%B3n-en-estructura-de-mando-de-la-polic%C3%ADa-nacional>

The JOH regime claims that it lowered "irregular" migration to the US by 30.8% last year.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/en-un-308-disminuy%C3%B3-la-migraci%C3%B3n-irregular-durante-2017>

A judge approved the extradition of the former mayoral candidate Jeffery Darío Guzmán Tovar to the US for presumed drug trafficking.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/12/autorizan-extradicion-a-ee-uu-del-hondureno-jeffry-guzman-tovar/>

<http://elpulso.hn/en-honduras-producimos-peliculas-pero-no-creamos-cine/>

14/01/18

(Re)Elections - Repression, Journalists, OAS, Armed Forces, JOH, EU; Civil Society; Violence; Mayors; MP; Congress; and Three Presidents and a Coward

The UN Human Rights Office in Honduras (OACNUDH) expressed yesterday in a press release its preoccupation about the continuation of violence and the excessive use of force by parts of the security forces. OACNUDH also calls out to the MP for a swift and concrete advancement in the investigation of the numerous allegations of human rights violations by security forces.

Pasos de Animal Grande offers an overview of Friday's protests and their violent repression.

FUSINA claims that they acted according to a UN manual...

This line of defense is taken up by both the National Party and the media close to the government, who imply that some isolated acts of vandalism (which some say are committed by infiltrators of the protests) excuse the violent repression of the protests.

Gustavo Zelaya Herrera challenges this narrative.

<https://www.facebook.com/ONUDDHH/posts/2071020443138743>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/elecciones-en-honduras-2017/item/2003-honduras-agresividad-violencia-y-la-fuerza-de-las-armas-contraciudadania-que-se-resiste-al-fraude-electoral>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/13/fusina-afirma-que-desaloja-a-la-oposicion-esta-en-el-manual-de-la-onu/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/dicen-que-no-fueron-ellos-pero-refieren-que-el-vandalismo-es-un-ensayo-antonio-rivera.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-hernandez-esta-de-acuerdo-con-protestas-pacificas-ricardo-alvarez.html>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1143034-410/preven-ingresos-turismo-bajaran-crisis-marriott-alianza-oposicion>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/13/identifican-personas-provocaron-danos-negocios-protestas/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1142972-466/sectores-condenan-actos-vand%C3%A1licos-de-la-alianza-de-oposici%C3%B3n-a-la-propiedad>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/13/la-chepa-tenia-barricadas-del-hotel-marriot/>

Pasos de Animal Grande spoke with journalist Dunia Montoya about the situation of journalists covering the protests and how they became special targets for state repression.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2004-periodistas-progresenos-son-el-blanco-perfecto-de-los-policias-cuando-cubren-manifestaciones>

Radio Progreso wonders what the real role of the OAS in Honduras is given its track record in the last three key events: 2009 (coup d'état), 2015 (mass protests against corruption demanding a CCIH) and 2017/18 (electoral fraud).

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4172-el-insulso-de-insulza-y-el-magro-de-almagro-13-enero-2018>

Joaquín Mejía explains how JOH gained the loyalty of the Armed Forces. Most of the key positions in the Armed Forces and those linked to it are filled by long-time allies, friends and relatives.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/13/conozca-las-fuerzas-armadas-tan-leales-joh/>

The JOH regime announced that it won't invited other presidents to the planned inauguration on January 27. They changed back to the simple-ceremony-narrative they had in the beginning probably fearing a poor showing of other dignitaries.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/13/gobierno-de-honduras-no-invitara-presidentes-para-toma-de-posesion-de-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/no-invitaran-presidentes-del-area-para-la-toma-de-posesion-de-hernandez.html>

Criterio published an article by Lola Sánchez Caldentey who sits in the European Parliament for Podemos and took part in the electoral observation mission of the EU. She writes about "the kidnapping of Honduras, a chronic of a fraud foretold".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/13/secuestro-honduras-cronica-fraude-anunciado/>

Wilfredo Méndez reacts to a recent comment by Carlos Hernández, director of the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ). Méndez recently denounced that he and other NGOs close to the JOH regime are trying to whitewash the electoral fraud in a lobbying tour in Washington DC. Carlos Hernández reacted by calling him a failed Libre candidate.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/13/carlos-hernandez-no-argumentos-responder-las-atrocidades-las-cuales-complice-wilfredo-mendez/>

A young man, who according to his family went missing on January 11, appeared dead on a highway going to Tegucigalpa. His eyes were missing and he showed sign of torture.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/13/sin-ojos-y-con-senales-de-tortura-encuentran-cadaver-de-joven-en-carretera-a-olancho/>

The recently elected mayor for the National Party, Carmen Idalmi Ramos, was attacked by unknown assailants in Dolores, Copán. She is the widow of the former mayor murdered in 2015.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/13/atentan-contra-alcaldesa-electa-en-el-occidente-de-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/atentan-contra-la-alcaldesa-electa-de-dolores-copan.html>

The Security Secretariat published a list of the 33 most wanted from Honduras (according to the photos, one seems to be a young boy wanted for theft...) and they offer a reward for information leading to their capture.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/ofrecen-recompensa-por-33-criminales-que-son-los-mas-buscados-en-honduras.html>

According to Congress' president Mauricio Oliva, they will hold a last session on January 20, discussing among other things the police reforms.

<http://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-cerrar-legislatura/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2646-honduras-por-que-no-matan-a-mel>

15/01/18

MADJ; (Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, OAS, US, Dialogue, Analysis; HIDROCEP; Forced Disappearance; Privatization; Education; and S***holes Everywhere

MADJ denounces an ugly new hate campaign against the MADJ leaders Martín Fernández and Víctor Fernández. They are accused of having ordered themselves the recent murder of Wilmer Pardedes - a murder which is widely believed to be political and committed by state security forces.

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/14/ALERTA-Peligrosa-campa%C3%B1a-de-odio-y-desprestigio-en-contra-Mart%C3%ADn-Fern%C3%A1ndez-y-V%C3%ADctor-Fern%C3%A1ndez-l%C3%ADderes-del-MADJ>

Salvador Nasralla accuses National Party activists of having infiltrated Friday's protests damaging the Marriot Hotel and trying to denigrate the protests.

It is feared that the wave of protests starting starting on the 20th and going until the expected inauguration on January 27, will be repressed as violently as on Friday by state security forces.

El Tiempo reports on a protests by the Opposition Alliance outside the Palmerola military base in Comayagua.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/14/nasralla-reafirma-que-el-oficialismo-infiltr%C3%B3-activistas-que-termino-en-batalla-campal/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/hacia-el-paro-nacional/>

<http://tiempo.hn/manifestantes-de-la-alianza-de-oposicion-protestan-frente-a-palmerola/>

Criterio reports that the Armed Forces tried to delete signs of repression from the streets by mending bullet holes.

The Honduran press has taken up the most recent press release by the UN Human Rights Office in Honduras.

COFADEH presented a legal complaint at the MP for the forceful

disappearance of Manuel de Jesús who was detained on January 3. Furthermore, they demand an update on their habeas corpus in favor of Bautista Salvador. Finally, they accuse the Military Police of the murder of David Octavio Quiroz. All the cases are linked to the post-electoral repression by the JOH regime.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/14/onu-condena-uso-excesivo-la-fuerza-parte-los-cuerpos-seguridad-del-estado-honduras-los-manifestantes/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/14/la-oacnudh-llama-al-dialogo-pide-alto-la-violencia-protestas/http://tiempo.hn/oacnudh-expresa-preocupacion-violencia/>

<http://tiempo.hn/oacnudh-expresa-preocupacion-violencia/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/violencia-y-uso-excesivo-de-la-fuerza-contra-protestas-de-alianza-opositora-preocupa-la-oacnudh>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/cofadeh-presento-denuncias-por-violaciones-de-ddhh-ante-el-mp-en-la-zona-norte-del-pais/>

OAS' General Secretary has requested from the presidency of the OAS, currently in the hands of Chile, to discuss their electoral observation report in the first meeting to be held this year. According to the article, he is met with resistance and the meeting could be postponed into February, i.e. after the imposition of JOH on January 27.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/14/la-oea-negocia-abordar-la-crisis-hondurena-ante-la-presion-almagro/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/la-oea-negocia-como-abordar-la-crisis-hondurena-ante-la-presion-de-almagro.html>

The Editorial Board of the Washington Post published another opinion piece on Honduras calling out the US government's hypocrisy in congratulating the JOH regime for its win in a fraudulent election. Furthermore, this behavior has damaged the "chances that independent monitors from the OAS will be able to check abuses in the 18 elections scheduled in the Western Hemisphere this year."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/hondurass-president-suspiciously-reversed-a-loss-then-the-us-congratulated-him/2018/01/14/06d29f28-f184-11e7-97bf-bba379b809ab_story.html?utm_term=.b750c75f14dc

JOH continues to order the violent repression of protests on the streets and the next day call for a 'sincere' dialogue and asks the protesters to demonstrate peacefully...

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-hernandez-llama-a-melnasralla-y-luis-a-un-dialogo-sincero-y-de-altura.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-hernandez-pide-a-la-alianza-que-se-manifieste-pacificamente.html>

Honduras Tierra Libre presents a way forward for Honduras.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/01/honduras-lo-que-pensamos-desde-nuestra.html>

The peaceful resistance by the inhabitants of Pajuiles against the imposition of a hydroelectric project by HIDROCEP commemorated yesterday its 300 days of struggle.

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/14/A-300-d%C3%ADas-de-lucha-digna-%C2%A1Pajuiles-resiste-Defender-el-agua-NO-es-un-delito>

In the case of the forced disappearance of union leader Donatilo Jiménez, his sister and wife were accused of defamation by the university for which he worked, CURLA, for demanding justice in the case of their loved one. Their trial will start on May 31, meanwhile Donatilo

Jiménez's case rests in impunity almost three years after his disappearance.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/a-finales-de-mayo-se-realizara-juicio-oral-y-publico-contr-familiares-de-sindicalista-desaparecido-de-los-predios-del-curla/>

El Heraldo published some more details on the stealthy privatization of the harbor in San Lorenzo.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1143235-466/honduras-por-30-a%3%B1os-buscan-dar-en-concesi%3%B3n-el-puerto-del-henec%3%A1n>

The former Education Minister and dean of the National Agriculture University (UNA) claims that he retook his position of dean after having been investigated for corruption.

The intervention committee who took over from him does not seem to agree with this.

And according to El Heraldo, the MACCIH will now get involved in the case.

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

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/interventor-dice-que-comision-debe-de-seguir-escoto-asegura-que-retomo-su-cargo-de-rector-de-la-una.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1143227-466/inspector%3%ADa-remite-investigaci%3%B3n-al-ministerio-p%3%BAblico-y-a-la-maccih>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1143223-466/el-doble-rostro-en-cuantiosa-demanda-contr-la-universidad-nacional-de-agricultura>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/14/los-agujeros-mierda-responden-trump-desde-honduras/>

16/01/18

(Re)Elections - MADJ, Repression, G-16, US, OAS, Dialogue, Congress, JOH; HR; Journalists; National Police; Education; and Honduras and the Regional View

ConexiHon interview MADJ coordinator Martín Fernández on the the wider consequences of the electoral fraud, e.g. the illegal concessions on Honduras' natural resources.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/una-fuerte-embestida-de-represion-contr-poblacion-en-atlantida-denuncia-el-madj>

CESPAD published a report overing an overview of the post electoral crisis covering the time period from December 17 to January 12. The report's title says it all: "The Military Police: The Main Bastion of the JOH Regime".

COFADEH published three gaphics allowing for a quick and devastating overview of the post-electoral repression (Nov 29 - Dec 31).

Political analyst Julio Navarro beliefs that the recent violent repression shows that the post-electoral crisis has further worsened. He also holds the armed forces responsible for the violence by comparing the recent peaceful protests in San Pedro Sula, where the Armed Forces stayed back and last Friday's protests in Tegucigalpa where they used excessive force trying to stop the protests.

The PR company of the JOH regime tries to make forget the state violence and released a press release criminalizing Manuel Zelaya and his nephew.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190366>

See attachments

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/15/alertan-que-honduras-va-hacia-una-profundizacion-de-la-crisis-poselectoral/>

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/honduran-government-identifies-prominent-perpetrators-of-violence-in-protests-in-tegucigalpa-300582718.html>

Guillermo Valle, president of Pinu and vice-presidential candidate of the Opposition Alliance wrote an open letter to the G-16 and its new president pro tempore, the US representative Heide Fulton. He calls on the G-16 and her to stop closing their eyes from the electoral fraud by the National Party and the state repression that haunts Honduras ever since.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/15/guillermo-valle-llamado-al-g-16-no-apoye-fraude-electoral-honduras/>

Heide Fulton, meanwhile, tweets about the need for a dialogue presenting Martin Luther King Jr. as an example to follow...

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/15/encargada-negocios-eeuu-honduras-se-acerca-al-dialogo-video/>

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1143434-410/charge_heide_fulton-dialogo-honduras-crisis_pol%C3%ADtica

TSE deputy magistrate Marco Ramiro Lobo stepped back into the headlights. According to him, the head of the OAS observation electoral mission told the TSE between Thursday and Friday after the election that Salvador Nasralla had won them. During the meeting, they asked the TSE to announce this result to the Honduran public. Lobo further claims that Theodore Dale, the owner of the company responsible for transmission of the tally sheet, came to the same conclusion.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/15/mision-la-oea-le-dijo-al-tse-salvador-nasralla-habia-ganado-las-elecciones-marco-ramiro-lobo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/15/theodoro-dale-vukanovich-me-dijo-salvador-nasralla-gano-las-elecciones-marco-ramiro-lobo/>

<http://tiempo.hn/ramiro-lobo-vukanovich-me-dijo-que-nasralla-gano/>

The Episcopal Conference of Honduras calls out to JOH and Salvador Nasralla to hold a dialogue. In their press release, they also mention the possibility of a mediated dialogue by an international body. They fear that if no short-term agreements are found, violence and police and military repression will continue together with the number of victims. Salvador Nasralla reiterates that JOH first has to recognize the electoral fraud. He also demands that the election of the leadership in Congress be postponed.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/15/iglesia-catolica-honduras-advierde-no-dialogo-habra-mas-muertes-represion-militar/>

<http://tiempo.hn/conferencia-episcopal-honduras/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/15/antes-de-dialogar-joh-debe-reconocer-el-robo-electoral-salvador-nasralla/>

It seems that the small Honduran parties feel an early spring. For the first time they formed a coalition and presented their demands to both the National Party and the Opposition Alliance for their support in Congress. Skimming their 24 points, it seems very close to the demands of the Opposition Alliance.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/15/partidos-satelites-conforman-coalicion-partidaria-encausar-dialogo-hernandez/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1143553-508/honduras-coalici%C3%B3n-condiciona-su-apoyo-a-la-gobernabilidad>

Egypt congratulates JOH for his "successful" reelection.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/15/presidente-hernandez-recibe-felicitation-egipto-triunfo-electoral/>

JOH announced in the midst of the post-electoral crisis that they will open the Human Rights Secretariat on January 27. Its annual budget will be 96 million Lempiras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/nueva-secretaria-de-ddhh-comenzara-a-funcionar-el-27-de-enero-anuncia-gobierno.html>

Yesterday morning, the Honduran journalist and former director of El Tiempo, Manuel Gamero, died. Even in his last years, he continued to fight for a better Honduras and belonged to the founding members of the Citizens Alignment for Democracy created in response to the illegal reelection bid of JOH. Defensores en Línea published a recent interview with him to commemorate him and his struggle.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/manuel-gamero-una-dictadura-neofascista-mantiene-secuestrada-la-institucionalidad/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2648-periodista-manuel-gamero-historico-luchador-contra-dictaduras>

<http://tiempo.hn/fallecimiento-de-manuel-gamero/>

The new leadership of the National Police Force took over control in an official ceremony.

ConfidencialHN cites JOH saying that the problems with the Honduran Police Force won't be solve in the next four year, but rather in the long run.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/15/policia-nacional-de-honduras-efectua-cambio-en-su-cupula/>

<http://tiempo.hn/policia-nacional-asume-nuevos-cargos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/15/joh-preve-que-la-recuperacion-de-la-policia-de-honduras-sera-a-largo-plazo/>

UNA student stopped Marlon Escoto from entering the National Agriculture University (UNA) (see yesterday for more details on the case).

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/15/estudiantes-personal-la-una-niegan-entrada-marlon-escoto/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4173-vamos-a-andar-15-enero-2018>

Violaciones a los Derechos Humanos en el contexto de las protestas anti fraude en Honduras

Durante el período comprendido entre el 29 de noviembre al 31 de diciembre de 2017, el COFADEH ha documentado:

126	Manifestaciones reprimidas
232	Personas heridas y lesionadas
72	Personas víctimas de tratos cr
1085	Personas Detenidas
30	Personas ejecutadas
34	Personas desplazadas por viole
1	Persona desaparecida

179

Expedientes penales abiertos por delitos vinculados a la c de atentado contra la seguridad interior del Estado y pose

15

Comunidades, barrios y colonias residenciales invadidas p zaron al menos 47 allanamientos domiciliarios en forma inc fueron acompañados de amenazas de muerte y de violenc incluyó uso de equipo antimotines y disparos de cápsulas casas.

12

Ataques a medios de comunicación y periodistas.

+ info en: www.defensoresenlinea.com

Violaciones a los Derechos Humanos en el contexto de las protestas anti fraude en Honduras

1,155

Manifestaciones en el país, en especial en Honduras; **126** fueron y **15** comunidades fuerzas de seguridad con la Policía Militar y el Ejército, que ha manifestantes hasta centros de refugio.



+ info en: www.defensoresenlinea.com

Violaciones a los Derechos Humanos en el contexto de las protestas anti fraude en Honduras



Los perpetradores

Policía Militar del Orden Público - PMOP

Policía Nacional Preventiva - PNP

Particulares

Desconocidos

De las 30 muertes registradas, 21 casos se suscitaron en el departamento de Atlántida, 14 en Cortés y 4 en Yoro; en el suroeste, 2 en el centro oriente, 6 en Francisco Morazán y 2 en

+ info en: www.defensoresenlinea.com

17/01/18

(Re)Elections - Journalists, Protests, Dialogue, Business, Transparency, JOH; Armed Forces; HR; JOH; Corruption; Maras; National Police; and a Dialogue? For What?

C-Libre presented a legal complaint at the Human Rights Prosecutor at the MP against members of the Armed Forces for torture and abuse of authority against the two journalists Rony Jonathan Martínez and Cesar Omar Silva.

In an interview with Pasos de Animal Grande, Carlos Ortíz, president of Honduran Press Association (APH), fears that the violence against journalists will further increase in the coming days.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/periodistas-agredidos-por-militares-interponen-denuncia-por-tortura-y-abuso-de-autoridad>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/periodista-rony-martinez-presenta-denuncia-ante-el-mp-por-agresiones-de-militares.html>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2006-presidente-de-aph-debido-al-contexto-de-polarizacion-en-honduras-los-abusos-contra-periodistas-se-incrementaran-en-los-proximos-dias>

The Opposition Alliance calls for renewed protests to guarantee that the "agony of the precarious institutionalism of the JOH regime" will be over in 10 days.

They emitted a press release yesterday, in which they further announced that beginning January 27, they will not recognize any public authority anymore because the constitutionally recognized democratic state won't exist anymore.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/16/alianza-oposicion-anuncia-solo-quedan-11-dias-agonia-gobierno-joh/>

<http://tiempo.hn/alianza-de-oposicion-pide-mediador/>

Tomas Andino Mencia offers an overview of the different positions held by the political opposition and how they came together in a joint statement by the Opposition Block against the Dictatorship on January 10: i) no dialogue "controlled by the dictator"; ii) nomination of a mediator; iii) the decisions of the mediator will have to be followed, they will have the status of a law; iv) a thorough audit of the electoral system by two companies serving as the baseline for the mediator; and v) if the mediator won't come to a conclusion, new elections will be held with a new TSE and a new Electoral Law. Tomas Andino Mencia then goes on to offer his own proposal which goes beyond this by guaranteeing that the "juanorlandismo" not just leaves the government, but also Congress and the Judicial Power.

There is a second idea floating around from the Catholic church and the business lobby regarding a national constituent assembly. Manuel Zelaya denounces that they have misused this term to deceive the public and in reality their proposal only intends to legitimize the JOH regime.

Omar Rivera, meanwhile, still pretends in his calls for a dialogue, that power is equally distributed in Honduras.

The same seems to be the case of the newly formed Citizen Platform for Honduras (PCH)

Nationalist congressman Antonio Rivera Callejas now says that they will accept an international mediator.

<http://elpulso.hn/nuevas-elecciones-mediacion-o-insurreccion-a-que-le-apostamos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/16/constituyente-propone-la-iglesia-los-empresarios-una-imposicion-legitimar-regimen-joh-mel-zelaya/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/presidente-hernandez-y-nasralla-deben-dar-el-ejemplo-para-la-construccion-de-un-pacto>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/sociedad-civil-sostiene-primera-reunion-para-buscar-solucion-a-crisis-politica.html>

<http://tiempo.hn/aceptan-mediador-internacional/>

The former president of the business lobby Eduardo Facussé wrote an open letter to its current one, Luis Larach, accusing him and the business world for their passive role in this political crisis and warning them that their pro-Nationalist-government outlook will hurt them in the long run.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/ex-presidente-del-cohep-reprocha-la-actitud-pasiva-de-la-empresa-privada-ante-la-crisis-politica/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/cohep-respeta-las-manifestaciones-politicas-pero-condena-los-actos-vandalicos.html>

The Clean Politics Unit will present a first report on the money spent for political campaigning in the coming 25 days.

<http://elpulso.hn/german-espinal-470-millones-de-lempiras-no-es-facil-gastar/>

JOH presented a transition committee to install his new government for the coming four years.

El Libertador reports on the preparations at the Honduran Central Bank where the inauguration of JOH is intended to take place on January 27. The president of El Salvador said that he won't come to JOH's inauguration due to "other state priorities".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/16/hernandez-nombra-comision-transicion-nueva-administracion/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2652-adornan-auditorio-del-bch-para-reeleccion-de-joh>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-de-el-salvador-declina-ir-a-toma-de-posesion-de-homologo-hondureno.html>

Human rights expert Joaquín A. Mejía Rivera writes about the "criminals in olive green", i.e. the Armed Forces in Honduras. He speaks of a transaction relationship between them and the JOH regime, loyalty and funds for impunity. They receive 38% of the 170 million Lempiras the tasa de seguridad collects every month.

<https://joaquinmejia.rivera.blogspot.ch/2018/01/criminales-de-verde-olivo.html>

Criterio reports on the opening of the Human Rights Secretariat "in the midst of military and police repression".

Casa Alianza calls it a farce and a white elephant.

JOH nominated Karla Cueva as the new head of the Human Rights Secretariat.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/16/medio-represion-militar-policial-gobierno-honduras-reabrira-secretaria-derechos-humanos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/16/creacion-de-secretaria-de-ddhh-es-una-farsa-y-un-elefante-blanco/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/karla-cueva-nueva-secretaria-de-derechos-humanos.html>

And in a lobbying effort, he has his sectoral ministers present publicly the results of their work in the last four years.

The Defense and Security Secretariats lauded themselves for their claimed reduction in violence.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/gobierno-del-presidente-joh-realizar%C3%A1-rendici%C3%B3n-de-cuentas-y-de-resultados-de-cuatro-%C3%B1os-de>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/defensa-y-seguridad-destaca-baja-de-homicidios-y-trabajo-coordinado-en-ultimo-cuatrenio.html>

Ten former employees of the teachers' pension fund Inprema had charges filed against them for corruption.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/16/auto-formal-procesamiento-10-exdirectivos-del-inprema-involucrados-actos-corrupcion/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/16/notifican-autos-de-formal-de-procesamiento-a-10-exdirectivos-del-inprema/>

El Tiempo reports that a mistake by the MP may lead to the release of nine gang members considered very dangerous. Apparently, the MP had let run out the time for presenting evidence against them. The MP announced that it will fix this.

<http://tiempo.hn/mp-libertad-pandilleros-de-la-mara-18/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/16/ministerio-publico-busca-corregir-planchon-para-evitar-liberacion-de-pandilleros/>

According to COnfidencialHN, three high-ranking police officials handed in their resignation unhappy with the newest leadership changes. Proceso Digital presents an overview of the purge of the police aligned with the view of the JOH regime.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/16/nombramiento-de-nueva-cupula-obliga-a-alto-oficial-pedir-retiro/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/policia-hondurena-a-otro-escalon-para-sostener-depuracion.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/16/dialogo-para-que/>

19/01/18

MADJ; HRDs; (Re)Elections - Journalists, OAS, Protests, Repression, Dialogue, Economy, JOH; HR; ZEDES; Women's Rights; Femicide; National Police; Poverty; Violence; Penitentiary System; Privatization; Congress; and Governance and its Crimes

The Coalition against Impunity filed complaints at the Human Rights Prosecutor in San Pedro Sula for the hate campaign against the MADJ leadership, Martín Fernández and Víctor Fernández.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4177-denuncian-campa%C3%B1a-de-odio-y-desprestigio-contra-l%C3%ADderes>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2009-echan-a-andar-los-falsos-positivos-contra-el-movimiento-amplio-por-la-dignidad-y-la-justicia-madj>

C-Libre denounces that the owner of Ficohosa Bank filed a complaint for defamation against the former police commissioner María Luisa Borjas based on revelations made by her last November about three high-impact murder cases (Alfredo Landaverde, Orlan Chávez, and Bertha Cáceres).

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/que%C3%B1o-de-banco-ficohosa-querella-comisionada-mar%C3%ADa-luisa-borjas>

The Journalists Association of Honduras (CPH) denounces the recent attacks by state security forces of journalists covering the protests.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/colegio-de-periodistas-denuncia-ataques-contrareporteros-y-directores-de-medios/>

The OAS announced that it won't put Honduras on its agenda before JOH's inauguration on January 27.

Human Rights Watch denounces this decision.

Dale Vukanovich, owner of the company transmitting the electoral results, sent a report to the OAS, trying to defend its work against the damning report by the OAS.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/oea-no-abordara-la-crisis-hondurena-toma-posesion-joh/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/component/k2/38-politica-nacional/la-oea-no-abordara-la-crisis-hondurena-antes-de-la-investigacion-de-hernandez.html>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/hrw-lamenta-que-paises-de-la-oea-hagan-la-vista-gorda-a-la-crisis-hondurena/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/hrw-lamenta-que-paises-de-la-oea-hagan-la-vista-gorda-a-la-crisis-hondurena.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/empresa-transmitio-resultados-electorales-honduras-envia-respuesta-luis-almagro/>

<http://tiempo.hn/dale-vucanovich-responde-con-documento/>

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle reflects on the announced protests which may take the form of a strike lasting several days.

Fusina announces that it will "maintain order" in the country. Given what this has meant in the past, the worst is to fear.

Similar words come from the head of the Armed Forces, René Ponce. The São Paulo Forum consisting of 111 left wing parties and political organizations in Latin America published a letter of solidarity with the Honduran protesters.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/paro-lamentos-exultaciones-previas/>

<http://tiempo.hn/alianza-de-oposicion-da-a-conocer-agenda-de-protestas-fusina-anuncia-desalojos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/fusina-promete-libre-circulacion-durante-semana-de-paro-nacional/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/para-hacer-respetar-la-ley-ffaa-garantiza-que-desalojara-manifestantes/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/foro-sao-paulo-demanda-solidaridad-honduras/>

The National Police Force announced that more arrests will follow after Friday's protests and the damage done to a hotel in Tegucigalpa. The political opposition denounces that infiltrators caused the damage to criminalize and denigrate the protests.

An example of the denigration comes from the director of the Honduran Tourism Institute (IHT) who now claims that the hotel chain is contemplating leaving Honduras...

One of the arrested for the damage is a former police agent.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/policia-anuncia-que-tienen-identificadas-mas-personas-que-destruyeron-hotel-capitalino-en-protesta.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/director-de-turismo-lamenta-que-franquicia-marriott-este-considerando-abandonar-honduras/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/arrestan-agente-policial-depurado-acusado-de-participar-en-disturbios/>

Salvador Nasralla denounces the invitation sent to him by JOH as a distraction because a simple conversation between them won't resolve the crisis.

Luis Zelaya also rejects the invitation. Nationalist Vice-president Ricardo Álvarez told the press that they will not negotiate the presidential election. Criterio critically reports of the initiative by NGOs known to be close to the JOH regime to create the Citizens Platform for Honduras (see also yesterday).

<http://tiempo.hn/salvador-nasralla-invitacion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/luis-zelaya-rechaza-invitacion-de-dialogo-nacional-del-presidente-hernandez.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/la-presidencia-es-innegociable-ricardo-alvarez.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/ong-afines-al-gobierno-crean-plataforma-impulsar-dialogo-nacional-promovido-joh/>

According to the former president of the Honduran Central Bank (BCH), Hugó Noé Pino, the economic situation of Honduras will worsen if JOH illegally starts a second term on January 27.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/hernandez-asume-27-enero-la-situacion-economica-honduras-empeorara-hugo-noe-pino/>

<http://tiempo.hn/situacion-del-pais-tras-la-toma-posesion/>

It seems that JOH wants to confuse possible protesters during his inauguration. According to El Heraldó, several venues are being prepared for the inauguration. Morocco congratulates JOH for his reelection.

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2017/1144213-508/toma-de-posesion-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-tendran-diferentes-escenarios>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/marruecos-felicita-a-presidente-hernandez-por-su-reeleccion.html>

In an interview with Radio Progreso, human rights expert Joaquín Mejía calls the creation of the Human Rights Secretariat a hypocrisy by the JOH regime.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4176-joaquin-mejia-creacion-de-secretaria-de-derechos-humanos-es-un-acto-de-hipocresia-del-gobierno-de-joh>

OFRANEH published a new article on the planned ZEDE in the Golf of Fonseca and the eviction of local families it is about to cause.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/01/17/disrumpiendo-la-democracia-en-honduras-las-zede-de-los-libertarios-y-amenazas-de-desalojo-en-el-golfo-de-fonseca/>

CEM-H, Vía Campesina and CESPAD held a joint press conference denouncing the lack of attention in the new budget for topics dear to women. Honduras has the tendency to try to present progressive laws on the international stage while at the same time failing to give it a proper budget to function.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/papel-mojado-son-leyes-a-favor-de-mujeres-si-no-tienen-presupuesto/>

<http://tiempo.hn/feministas-de-honduras-lucha-2018/>

95% of femicide cases in 2017 rest in impunity.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/el-95-de-crimenes-de-mujeres-esta-en-impunidad-en-honduras.html>

The former police commissioner María Luisa Borjas criticizes the work of the purging committee. According to her, they became accomplices of the police. Doris Gutiérrez, Pinu congresswoman, calls for an independent evaluation unit inside the police force instead of prolonging the mandate of the purging committee once more. Omar Rivera, member of the purging unit, criticizes Borjas while saying that he does not want to criticize her.

<http://tiempo.hn/comision-depuradora-es-complice/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/yo-respeto-mar%C3%AD-luisa-borjas-es-una-dama-y-no-voy-maltratarla-como-ella-maltrata-los>

According to Fosdeh, 250'000 Hondurans became newly poor in 2017 and the poverty rate rose by 3%.

<http://tiempo.hn/nuevos-pobres-en-honduras-dejo-el-2017/>

Reporteros de Investigación published an analysis by María Lima Malvido on the failed public policies towards victims of crime and violence in Honduras.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/17/politicas-publicas-en-atencion-a-victimas-2/>

The National Penitentiary Institute (INP) announced that they will start rotating the directors of the Honduran prisons.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/inp-cambia-a-directores-de-centros-penales-a-nivel-nacional.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/sistema-penitenciario-de-honduras-rota-a-todos-los-directores-de-presidios/>

The labor union of port workers protest against the privatization of the harbor in San Lorenzo.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/17/honduras-protestan-por-la-privatizacion-del-puerto-de-san-lorenzo/>

Congress will meet for the last time in the current setting today at 9am.

<http://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-clausura-ultima/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/17/la-gobernabilidad/>

19/01/18

MADJ; (Re)Elections - Repression, Journalists, Protests, Fraud, Dialogue, JOH, Opposition Parties, US, Reelection, Analysis; Militarization; Journalists; Congress; HRDs; National Police; Corruption; HR; MACCIH; Penitentiary System; and the Smile of the Executioner

Defensores en Línea reports on the intensifying hate campaign against the leadership of MADJ.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/se-intensifica-campana-de-odio-contra-dirigentes-del-madj/>

The Coalition against Impunity condemns the the physical and verbal attacks against human rights defenders and social leaders as part of the post-electoral repression.

The head of Forensic Medicine, Julissa Villanueva, announced that they will exhume three victims of the post-electoral crisis because they haven't performed an autopsy on them. The article speaks of 24 victims

in total, ignoring that the number has almost doubled as has been documented by COFADEH and others.
Julissa Villanueva also said that the reports of the already conducted autopsies were handed over to the MP and human rights organizations.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/condenamos-energicamente-ataques-y-campanas-de-desprestigio-en-contra-de-defensores-defensoras-y-lideres-sociales-en-la-coyuntura-post-electoral/>

<https://tiempo.hn/medicina-forense-hara-exhumaciones/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/informes-de-autopsias-de-fallecidos-durante-crisis-politica-han-sido-entregados-a-mp-medicina-forense.html>

Pasos de Animal Grande denounces a new defamation campaign against ten journalists.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2011-honduras-campana-de-desprestigio-contra-10-periodistas-circula-en-las-redes-sociales-en-las-ultimas-horas>

Erick Tejada Carbajal reflects what the right to protest means in today's Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/42074/>

Congressman Luis Redondo announced that he and others are ready to proof in front of any court the electoral fraud which had taken place in Honduras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/diputado-redondo-dice-puede-probar-fraude-electoral-en-cualquier-tribunal.html>

The Liberal Party now accepts a dialogue, but only if it is convened, lead and accompanied by personalities with an entirely good reputation. During the last session of Congress, Manuel Zelaya spoke with Mauricio Oliva, the Nationalist president of Congress. According to the former, the National Party still rejects the proposal for a real dialogue made by the Opposition Alliance.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/partido-liberal-honduras-acepta-dialogo-convocado-dirigido-personalidades-entero-credito/>

<https://tiempo.hn/luis-zelaya-acepta-dialogo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/hablaron-hoy-mel-zelaya-mauricio-oliva/>

C-Libre director Edy Tábora speaks with Criterio about the current situation in Honduras and explains how starting January 27, Honduras will be ruled by a de facto government. The JOH regime has already started militarizing the possible places for the inauguration.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/partir-del-27-enero-honduras-habra-gobierno-facto-edy-tabora/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1144504-466/honduras-con-varios-anillos-de-seguridad-evitar%C3%A1n-tomas-durante-investidura>

The newly elected congresswo/men of the opposition parties collected their credentials from the TSE under protest. The TSE still tries to interpret it as a recognition of their work...

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/protesta-diputados-electos-libre-retiran-credencial-del-tse/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/si-aceptan-la-credencial-es-porque-respetan-los-resultados-de-elecciones-tse/>

Wilfredo Méndez, director of Ciprodeh, asks the US to rethink their position on Honduras. According to him, they need to better analyze

their position both in the area of human rights and democracy. He made this statement after the US once more congratulated Honduras, this time for nominating Karla Cueva as the new Human Rights Secretary. Wendy Funes wrote an open letter to the US-American people.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/defensor-los-derechos-humanos-honduras-pide-ee-uu-pondere-posicionamientos/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/eeuu-recomienda-a-ministra-de-ddhh-trabajar-de-forma-conjunta-con-el-ministerio-publico.html>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/18/carta-abierta-al-pueblo-estadounidense/>

Former presidential candidate and Liberal congressman Mauricio Villeda told the press that the Liberal Party won't support any efforts to legalize the presidential reelection.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/villeda-advierte-que-bancada-del-pl-no-reglamentar%C3%A1-la-reelecci%C3%B3n-presidencial>

Luis Méndez sees Honduras at a crossroads leading either to a consolidated dictatorship or to its downfall.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190448>

Congress held its last session in the current setup inside a militarized Congress.

Inside, opposition congresswo/men protested and held up banners with "Fuera JOH".

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/bajo-fuerte-militarizacion-en-los-alrededores-del-cn-se-realiza-la-ultima-sesion-de-los-actuales-legisladores/>

<https://tiempo.hn/militarizan-bajos-del-congreso-nacional-ultimas-sesiones/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/militarizan-accesos-al-parlamento-de-honduras-diputados-retoman-sesiones/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/que-el-presidente-se-prepare-para-una-probadita-inician-operacion-fuera-joh/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn//noticias/diputados-de-libre-ponen-en-marcha-operaci%C3%B3n-fuera-joh-en-la-%C3%BAltima-sesi%C3%B3n-de-esa>

The soldiers surrounding Congress impeded journalist Cesar Omar Silva from entering and covering the events at Congress. They just told him that they had "orders from above".

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/%E2%80%9C%C3%B3rdenes-superiores%E2%80%9D-militares-impiden-periodista-ingresar-al-congreso>

Meanwhile in Congress, they approved with a delay the budget for this year. It rose to 243 billion Lempiras. Furthermore, they approved the remaining parts of the new Penal Code.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/fin-aprueban-presupuesto-2018/>

<https://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-aprueba-amnistias/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/aprobado-el-nuevo-codigo-penal-de-honduras.html>

The former police commissioner and now Libre congresswoman María Luisa Borjas publicly announced that she won't be threatened by law suit against her by the bank owner Camilo Átala. She stands by her statements regarding the people responsible for the murders of Berta Cáceres, Alfredo Landaverde and Orlan Chávez (See yesterday).

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/18/maria-luisa-borjas-asegura-no-se-retractara-ante-querella-camilo-atala/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1144509-466/a-juicio-querella-contra-la-diputada-electa-mar%C3%ADa-luisa-borjas>

The purging committee presented a report on their work to Congress. Based on a source from Congress, El Libertador reports that the mandate for the purging committee will be prolonged by another year. Proceso Digital confirms this.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/depuradores-presentan-informe-presidente-del-cn>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/depuradores-presentan-informe-a-presidente-del-congreso-nacional/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2654-gobierno-hondureno-dara-un-ano-mas-a-depuradores-de-policia>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/cn-amplia-por-un-ano-comision-interventora-de-una-y-a-depuradora-policia.html>

The trial against the five congresswo/men for corruption was postponed once more to next Wednesday. The MACCIH is confident that they will be convicted.

<https://tiempo.hn/red-de-diputados-tendra-resolucion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/reprograman-audiencia-a-en-caso-red-de-diputados.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/absolucion-para-diputados-acusados-de-corruptos-es-imposible-maccih/>

The JOH regime also nominated two vice-ministers for the Human Rights Secretariat.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/gobierno-juramenta-viceministras-de-secretaria-de-derechos-humanos.html>

The MACCIH presented a new international judge which joined their team.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/maccih-presenta-a-marco-villeda-que-fungira-como-fiscal-internacional.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/maccih-presenta-nuevo-juez-que-trabajara-en-casos-de-corrupcion/>

Administrative workers at the National Penitentiary Institute (INP) stopped their work yesterday demanding better salaries.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/18/empleados-del-sistema-penitenciario-paran-labores-para-exigir-mejoras-salariales/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4178-la-sonrisa-del-verdugo-18-enero-2018>

20/01/18

(Re)Elections - HRDs, Repression, Fraud, Journalists, Dialogue, Protests, Militarization, JOH, Congress; Drug Trafficking; Workers' Rights; Budget; IHSS; and Poor Country - Rich Army

The Coalition against Impunity denounces that the National Mechanism for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders negated protection to at risk human rights defenders in at least four cases.

A group of international human rights organization wrote an open letter to the mechanism's director voicing their concern about this.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2012-coalicion-contra-la-impunidad-mecanismo-de-proteccion-se-ha-negado-a-actuar-para-mitigar-el-riesgo-por-amenazas-contra-defensores-de-derechos-humanos>

See Attachment

The IACHR and the UN Human Rights Office in Honduras published another joint press release "voicing concerns about the threats and harassment against human rights defenders, journalists and media outlets in the post-electoral context." Later in the press release, they name the culprits as "State Security Forces".

Nevertheless, JOH's PR agency tries to spin the story publishing a press release which calls the Opposition Alliance to respect the freedom of the press...

Juan Almendares Bonilla, director of the Center for the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (CPTRT) fears that the repression goes even further than that and denounces the planned assassination of social leaders in Honduras as part of a new National Security Doctrine similar to the 1980s.

Edwin Espinal, an activist of the National Popular Resistance Front (FNRP) and whose former partner Wendy Ávila was murdered following the coup, has been captured by Honduran security forces and falsely accused of inciting the riot in which infiltrators set fire to the Marriott. La Tribuna reports on his arrest as a "man suspected of having committed acts of vandalism".

<https://www.facebook.com/ONUDDHH/posts/2074215572819230>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/cidh-y-oacnudh-expresan-preocupaci%C3%B3n-por-amenazas-contra-periodistas-y-medios-de>

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/honduran-president-urges-libre-alliance-to-respect-freedom-of-press-join-national-dialogue-300585514.html>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/nueva-forma-de-instauracion-de-la-doctrina-de-seguridad-nacional-advierte-juan-almendares>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/19/capturan-sospechoso-cometer-actos-vandalicos/>

Radio Progreso explains how the main medial close to the JOH regime help to whitewash the electoral fraud through a kind of "political Manichaeism", i.e. presenting it as a battle between good, JOH, and bad, the Opposition Alliance.

The main media and its supporters also go after alternative media outlets trying to counter their narrative as can be seen by the recent legal pursuit of the digital newspaper Libertad Digital by the president of the Journalist Association of Honduras (CPH)

Three scholars at the National Autonomous University of Mexico have shown in an article how the JH regime used bots on social media in an effort to white wash the electoral fraud.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4180-del-fraude-a-la-legitimaci%C3%B3n-presidencial-19-enero-2018>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/presidente-del-colegio-de-periodistas-de-honduras-acusa-medio-de-comunicaci%C3%B3n-digital-de>

See Attachment

C-Libre denounces the new defamation campaign against ten journalists covering the protests (see also yesterday).

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/periodistas-victimas-de-campa%C3%B1as-de-incitaci%C3%B3n-al-odio-y-al-desprestigio-trav%C3%A9s-de-las-redes>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/periodistas-denuncian-ante-mp-ser-victimas-de-odio-y-desprecio-por-apoyar-protestas.html>

The National Human Rights Roundtable criticizes the JOH's call for a dialogue "illusory and deceptive" as long as the two main topics are not on the agenda: the electoral fraud and the human rights violations following the elections.

A case in point, Congress' president Mauricio Oliva says that to participate in the dialogue, one has to accept that the National Party won...

Nasralla asked the UN to propose an international mediator before JOH's inauguration on January 27.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/si-no-se-revierte-fraude-y-se-castigan-violaciones-ddhh-el-dialogo-es-una-mentira>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/participar-dialogo-se-aceptar-partido-nacional-gano-las-elecciones-mauricio-oliva/>

<https://tiempo.hn/salvador-nasralla-pide-la-onu-envie-mediador-del-27-enero/>

A week of protest will start this morning at 6am. Jefferson Maradiaga Vigil sees it as a battle between a legal insurrection against an illegal authority. Businesses seem to have prepared themselves.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2658-hervidero-de-tensiones-a-escasas-horas-del-paro-nacional>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/01/estamos-autoconvocados-la-insurreccion.html>

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/01/honduras-horas-de-iniciar-el-historico.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/insurreccion-legal-versus-autoridad-ilegal/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/ante-paro-nacional-empresarios-negocios-amurallan-edificios/>

As a response to the protests, the JOH regime further militarizes Honduras. Criterio reports that in Colón, where the Opposition Alliance did very well during the elections, the Armed Forces seem to be preparing a war.

Fusina warns once more that it will go after the protesters.

Once more, the JOH regime does not listen to the call by the UN not to use the armed forces to repress its people.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/departamento-colon-esta-militarizado-la-guerra/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/militares-honduras-advierten-enesima-vez-represion-energica-paro-nacional/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2659-fusina-urde-fracaso-del-paro-nacional-en-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/onu-pido-no-usar-militares/>

<https://tiempo.hn/la-onu-pide-honduras-revisar-uso-la-fuerza-manifestaciones/>

JOH officially received his credentials for the fraudulent reelection by the TSE.

A group of evangelical pastors published a press release in which they hold JOH responsible for the current situation in Honduras and for putting in danger the lives of Hondurans.

<http://elpulso.hn/juan-orlando-herandez-acreditado-como-presidente-para-el-periodo-2018-2022/>

<https://tiempo.hn/tse-acredita-oficialmente-a-juan-orlando/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/grupo-pastores-evangelicos-del-valle-sula-responsabiliza-hernandez-poner-riesgo-la-vida-muchos-hondurenos/>

According to ConfidencialHN, the National Party once more brought the so-called bonsai parties on its side to guarantee its control of Congress.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/19/partido-nacional-pacta-con-partidos-bonsais-para-controlar-parlamento1/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/19/dirigentes-del-partido-nacional-garantizan-que-seguiran-controlando-el-parlamento/>

The reelected Liberal congressman Freddy Renán Nájera Montoya has been accused by a US court of drug trafficking. The accusation is based on the testimony by Devis Leonel Rivera Maradiaga.

InSight Crime picked this story up.

Reporteros de Investigación highlights how the JOH regime protected Freddy Renán Nájera Montoya.

Now, after the accusations coming from the US, the speaker of the Supreme Court of Justice told the press that Freddy Renán Nájera Montoya has a pending law suit in Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/diputado-fredy-najera-es-acusado-por-narcotrafico/>

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/us-charge-honduran-congressman-drug-trafficking/>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/19/gobierno-protegio-a-congresista-hondureno-ligado-a-cartel-de-sinaloa/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/diputado-fredy-najera-tiene-causa-penal-pendiente-en-tribunales-hondurenos.html>

Banana plantation workers have been on strike for more than 20 days at “Chiquita Honduras” on various of their plantations throughout Honduras.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4182-obreros-de-bananera-en-honduras-cumplen-m%C3%A1s-de-20-d%C3%ADas-de-huelga>

Radio Progreso published a critical analysis of the new General Budget.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4184-gobierno-apuesta-a-defensa-y-seguridad-en-presupuesto-general-2018>

The former Serna vice-minister Darío Roberto Cardona declared himself guilty for influence peddling in the IHSS corruption case.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/19/exfuncionario-admite-haber-cobrado-soborno-para-beneficiar-al-fiscal-adjunto/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/exviceministro-cardona-acepta-culpabilidad-en-caso-de-trafico-de-influencias.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/19/programan-para-agosto-el-juicio-contrasocio-de-la-palillona-del-ihss/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/19/necesitan-los-pobres-ejercito-parasito/>

21/01/18

(Re)Elections - Edwin, Protests, Repression, Journalists, Analysis, Congress; UNAH; Judicial Power; and the Accomplices of Continuity

Yesterday's arrest of the Honduran activist Edwin Espinal caused wide-spread condemnations. Edwin has benefited since 2009 from protective measures by the IACHR which were renewed after the then newly created illegally raided his house in 2013. One day after his arrest, he remains in custody facing three charges linked to the protests on Friday and the damage done to the Marriot hotel.

C-Libre denounces it as a political arrest.

Pasos de Animal Grande explains how the JOH regime uses the newly established terrorism charges to go after social leaders.

<https://copinhenglish.blogspot.ch/2018/01/alert-edwin-espinal-arrested-for.html>

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2018/01/alerta-capturan-al-companero-edwin.html>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/%C2%BFpresos-pol%C3%ADticos-jueces-manda-prision-lider-social-edwin-espinal>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/juez-manda-prision-lider-social-edwin-espinal/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2013-el-terrorismo-un-arma-legal-que-usara-el-gobierno-contra-el-luchador-social-edwin-robelo-espinal>

Honduras lived through the first day of a week of protest leading up to the planned inauguration of JOH on January 27.

Since Friday, the streets of Honduras are even more militarized than usual.

Salvador Nasralla accompanied the protests and filmed the military presence.

Probably knowing what the Honduran state security forces are willing to do, the Bureau for Children, Adolescents and Family (Dinaf) asked

parents not to bring their children to the protests because they could

suffer attacks against their "physical, psychological and moral well-being".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2660-honduras-esta-tomada-por-la-resistencia-pese-a-represion>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/20/a-escala-nacional-alianza-opositora-inicia-protestas-en-repudio-a-joh/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4186-presencia-militar-conteniente-protestas-anti-fraude-en-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/42233/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/dinaf-pide-a-padres-de-familia-no-exponer-a-ninos-en-manifestaciones.html>

As feared, the Honduran state security forces disobeyed two recent public statements by the IACHR, the UN Human Rights Office in Honduras and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights demanding a stop to the attacks against human rights defenders, journalists and social communicators as well as an end to the use of the armed forces to repress protests.

The repression led to the death of another protester and several wounded and detained. Selmo Villareal, a 76 year old man living in Sabá, Colón, was shot dead by the armed forces.

The UN Human Rights Office in Honduras laments his violent death,

demanding an investigation and an immediate end to the violence.

According to COFADEH, he is the 34th victim of the post-electoral repression.

Defensores en Línea emitted an alert after the arrest of the student leader Nery Jeancarlo Cruz in Tegucigalpa. COFADEH lists some further arrests in the same article.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2663-desafian-a-onu-militares-hondurenos-atacaron-y-asesinaron>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/honduras-cidh-y-oacnudh-llaman-impedir-ataques-contraperiodistas-y-defensores>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/alto-comisionado-onu-llama-suprimir-uso-de-militares-en-manifestaciones-en-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/muere-primera-persona-victima-las-balas-militares-saba-colon/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/asesinato-y-represi%C3%B3n-militar-en-manifestaci%C3%B3n-ciudadana>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/naciones-unidas-se-pronuncia-ante-crimen-campesino-colon-agresion-periodista/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/compa-ayudeme-pedia-la-primera-victima-mortal-en-el-paro-nacional-contrala-di/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/alerta-capturan-a-dirigente-universitario-nerycruz/>

Journalists were also victims of yesterday's repression. Dassaev Aguilar Moncada from Hispan TV was hit by a tear gas canister thrown by the Military Police leading to a fracture in his left leg.

The UN Human Rights Office in Honduras reacts to this attack by reiterating its concerns about the freedom of expression in Honduras and demands steps to prevent attacks against the press.

CONADEH also demands protection measures for journalists and media outlets.

Radio Progreso continues to highlight the detrimental role of the big media outlets and also the Journalist Association Honduras (CPH) in playing into the hands of the JOH regime.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/polic%C3%ADa-militar-le-fractura-la-pierda-periodista-con-bomba-lacrim%C3%B3gena>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/militares-le-fracturan-una-pierna-periodista-hispantv-daba-cobertura-protesta-la-oposicion/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/naciones-unidas-se-pronuncia-ante-crimen-campesino-colon-agresion-periodista/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/20/conadeh-pide-proteccion-periodistas-medios/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4185-un-colegio-c%C3%B3mplice-de-la-dictadura-20-enero-2018>

José Rafael del Cid deconstructs two common refrains, or fallacies as he calls them, regarding the political crisis in Honduras and the role of the Opposition Alliance. According to him, the latter's participation in the elections did not automatically white-wash the electoral process.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/dos-falacias-la-crisis-politica-honduras/>

The National Party with the support of the so-called bonsai parties retook power in Congress with Mauricio Oliva as the reelected president.

<https://tiempo.hn/acuerdo-mauricio-oliva-reelecto-presidente-del-congreso-nacional/>

It could be interpreted as an intent to break the spirit of the young generation that the JOH regime offered a new job at the UNAH to the controversial former UNAH dean Julieta Castellanos who stepped down after months of protests and the criminalization of dozens of students...

<https://tiempo.hn/julieta-castellanos-vuelve-a-trabajar-en-la-unah-enterate-que-cargo-le-dieron/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/exrectora-julieta-castellanos-asume-la-direccion-del-iudpas.html>

Edmundo Orellana contemplates the state of judicial independence and justice in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/independencia-judicial-justicia/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/20/los-complices-del-continuismo/>

22/01/18

HRDs; MADJ; (Re)Elections - Repression, Congress, Dialogue, Opposition Alliance, Garífunas; US; MACCIH; and No Plan

REDEHSUR launched an alert after the human rights defender Allan Torres from Puerto Grande in Amapala, Valle, received death threats.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/redehsur-lanza-una-alerta-a-toda-la-comunidad-nacional-e-internacional/>

The Military Police surrounded the house in which MADJ leader Martin Fernández and other MADJ members were staying on Saturday night. One Military Police agent threatened Martin with his automatic gun and before leaving the perimeter, they tossed a tear gas container in the house.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/urgente-policias-y-militares-tienen-rodeada-la-casa-del-dirigente-del-madj-martin-fernandez-y-otros-integrantes-en-san-juan-pueblo-atlantida/>

Dick & Miriam Emanuelsson, who report from the protests in Honduras, published a video on the repression by the state security forces showing their use of live bullets.

The speaker of the National Police announced that they remained in the streets on Sunday together with the Armed Forces to stop possible protests.

<http://www.hondurastierralibre.com/2018/01/honduras-el-ejercito-dispara-balas.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/policia-nacional-mantendra-operativos-para-evitar-toma-de-carreteras-en-todo-el-pais.html>

In a stealth move, the National Party and the bonsai parties elected the provisional leadership for Congress for the coming four years. The Nationalist Mauricio Oliva was reelected as Congress' president, Dennis Castro Bobadilla from the Patriotic Alliance as the vice-president and the Nationalist Tomás Zambrano as the secretary. Salvador Nasralla condemns the votes of the congressman from UD, DC and the Patriotic Alliance which helped to consolidate the dictatorship. Criticism also comes from the Liberal Party. The historian Edgar Israel Soriano explains how Congress became controlled by the National Party over the nine last years.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/21/conozca-los-67-diputados-votaron-darle-congreso-nacional-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/21/madrugan-lo-cachureco-oficialismo-impone-junta-directiva-provisional-del-congreso-nacional/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/cuatro-bancadas-eligen-a-oliva-como-presidente-del-cn.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/21/honduras-no-ningun-futuro-pais-democratico-estado-derecho-nasralla/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/alianza-patriotica-le-fallo-a-honduras-el-general-romeo-le-dio-mas-poder-al-poder-dario-banegas.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/21/congreso-emborrachado-la-reprimida-honduras/>

Leticia Salomón highlights how the concept of a dialogue is misused by the JOH regime and she explains what question would need to be answered before applauding the mere call for a dialogue.

One case in point are the recent statements by the government minister Jorge Hernández Alcerro denigrating and criminalizing the political opposition while highlighting the he and his party are calling for a dialogue.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/21/yo-dialogo-tu-dialogas-el/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/no-vamos-a-construir-un-pais-con-la-violencia-hernandez-alcerro.html>

El Pulso interviewed the recently elected congressman for the Opposition Alliance and brother of Manuel Zelaya, Carlos Zelaya, They talk about the militarization in Olancho as well as the position of the Opposition Alliance in Congress.

<http://elpulso.hn/carlos-zelaya-cualquiera-a-cargo-de-la-bancada-seguira-la-linea-de-lo-que-el-partido-decida/>

The Sacramento Bee reports on the Garífuna activist and doctor Luther Castillo Harry who after fleeing to Sacramento will now return to Honduras for the swearing in of the first Garífuna mayor in Honduras, Jerry Sabio in La Ceiba.

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/article195700969.html>

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle reflects on the first year of the Trump administration and its consequences for Honduras and the world at large.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/21/honduras-mundo-ano-imperio-trump/>

Representatives of the MACCIH and the MP will attend the declaration by Marcelo Odebrecht in Rio de Janeiro tomorrow looking for possible links to Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/21/maccih-y-ministerio-publico-sabran-si-exfuncionarios-recibieron-sobornos-de-odebrecht/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/20/42237/>

23/01/18

(Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, Fraud, Opposition Alliance, OAS, JOH, Netherlands, Congress, Journalists; Corruption; and Let's Dance

"A Mobilized People", like this Giorgio Trucchi describes the situation in Honduras where Hondurans took and continue to take to the streets to protests the planned inauguration of JOH on January 27.

Jude Webber reports for the Financial Times on the current protests in Honduras which remind her of the situation in Peru in 2000 when Alberto Fujimori won a third mandate in a dubious election.

(If you cannot open the link, the one via Twitter let me read the article behind the pay wall)

El Pulso spoke with Libre leader Gilberto Ríos about future protests after January 27.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/un-pueblo-movilizado/>

<https://www.ft.com/content/9e3e3584-ff5d-11e7-9650-9c0ad2d7c5b5>

https://twitter.com/jude_webber/status/955462914336546821

<http://elpulso.hn/mas-protestas-y-desobediencia-civil-despues-de-la-toma-de-posesion-de-joh/>

Yesterday, there was the hearing of the arrested and criminalized social activist Edwin Robelo Espinal. The Amnesty International representative Hernan Silva was denied entry to the hearing.

The Alliance for Global Justice launched an online campaign in support of Edwin.

CESPAD published its second report on the post-electoral crisis in Honduras, this time covering the time between January 14 and 20. Both Avispa Midia and Contracorriente report on the newest wave of repression in Honduras. The latter also dedicates a part of its article to the Nationalist power grab in Congress.

The mayor of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, calls out to all mayors of the world to jointly call for an end of the repression in Honduras.

https://www.facebook.com/100004767908229/videos/835249769977279/?_fb_noscript=1

http://org2.salsalabs.com/o/7315/p/dia/action4/common/public?action_KEY=25751

<http://cespad.org.hn/2018/01/22/desafiando-la-militarizacion-se-realiza-el-paro-civico-nacional-del-20-de-enero/>

<https://avispa.org/21318-2/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/22/gas-lacrimogeno-imposicion-legislativa-golosinas/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/42306/>

To add to the fraudulent reelection of JOH, Criterio reports on another violation to the Honduran constitution having taken place during the general elections. Roy Dagoberto Cruz Pérez was elected as congressman which the Constitution prohibits because he is the cousin of Rolando Argueta Pérez, the president of the Supreme Court.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/primo-del-presidente-del-poder-judicial-fue-electo-diputado-violentando-la-ley/>

Contracorriente published a long interview with Salvador Nasralla.

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/22/gas-lacrimogeno-imposicion-legislativa-golosinas/>

In the midst of the brutal repression by state security forces, the OAS published a new statement that at the same time mentions the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which would be needed to call for new elections, and confirms "its firm intention to work in the future with the elected authorities of Honduras."

And the same day, the IACHR also congratulates Honduras for opening the Human Rights Secretariat...

It has been widely interpreted that with the above statement, the OAS now recognized the (still illegal and fraudulent) reelection by JOH.

Manuel Zelaya reacted by calling the OAS the press speaker of the US State Department.

Political analyst Raúl Pineda Alvarado agrees calling the OAS an echo chamber of US foreign policy.

Salvador Nasralla, meanwhile, told Criterio that he had a conversation with OAS General Secretary Luis Almargo telling him that they stand by their previous statement (in which they called for new elections).

But then El Tiempo and others reported that Luis Almargo had confirmed the new statement by the OAS and Nasralla then denounced that they validated an electoral fraud.

The Honduran ambassador to the OAS told El Heraldo that this turn-around is due to a constant dialogue they held with the OAS...

In a Trumpian manner, the Honduran chancellor María Dolores Agüero announced that a "high number" of diplomats confirmed their participation in JOH's inauguration. In the same article, El Heraldo cites JOH saying that three new special forces will be presented soon.

https://www.oas.org/en/media_center/press_release.asp?sCodigo=E-001/18

https://www.oas.org/es/centro_noticias/comunicado_prensa.asp?sCodigo=C-001/18

<https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/prensa/comunicados/2018/008.asp>

<http://elpulso.hn/oea-reconoce-triunfo-de-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/oea-demuestra-vocera-del-departamento-estado-mel-zelaya/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/la-oea-una-caja-resonancia-la-politica-exterior-norteamericana-raul-pineda-alvarado/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/nasralla-aun-mantiene-vivas-las-esperanzas-la-oea/>

<https://tiempo.hn/la-oea-anuncia-trabajara-nuevas-autoridades/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/de-lamentable-y-condenable-califica-nasralla-declaracion-de-oea-y-dice-ya-no-tienen-razon-de-ser.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/inicio/1145551-465/leonidas-rosa-bautista-el-comunicado-de-la-oea-se-debe-al-proceso>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1145534-466/alto-n%C3%BAmero-de-confirmaciones-a-la-toma-de-posesi%C3%B3n-de-juan-orlando>

It seems a reasonable question to ask if these are the best circumstances for the Dutch government to hold official conversations about the future collaboration with the Honduran regime...

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/22/honduras-paises-bajos-ratifican-relaciones-amistad-cooperacion/>

JOH seems to see it as a recognition and announced that he will collaborate with the OAS.

Furthermore, he already nominated a new Agriculture Minister.

Wendy Funes addresses JOH in an open letter entitled "Nobody loves you, dictator".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/hernandez-recibe-jubilo-respaldo-le-dio-hoy-la-oea/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/expresidente-del-cohep-santiago-ruiz-sera-nuevo-secretario-agricultura-ganaderia-hernandez/>

<https://tiempo.hn/hernandez-realiza-los-primeros-cambios-presidente-reelecto/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/nadie-te-quiere-dictador/>

Radio Progreso offers a summary on Sunday's events in Congress and how the National Party re-established its power.

The official governing board for Congress will be elected today.

The newly elected Congress will start its first session already on Thursday.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4189-oficialismo-triunfa-en-nueva-composici%C3%B3n-de-congreso-nacional>

<https://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-elegira-la-junta-directiva-oficial-este-martes/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1145559-466/este-martes-se-elige-la-junta-directiva-del-nuevo-congreso-nacional>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1145535-466/agenda-pol%C3%ADtica-y-social-los-desaf%C3%ADos-del-nuevo-congreso-nacional-2018-2022>

Criterion reports on the harassment of a journalist by protesters on Sunday. As it turned out, they believed she was an infiltrator filming them to later on hand over the material to the police. Human rights defender Wilfredo Méndez cleared up the situation and reiterated that they won't tolerate violence.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/22/manifestantes-la-alianza-agreden-periodista-canal-6/>

Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla is currently in Brazil together with representatives of the MACCIH where they intend to interview four witnesses in the Odebrecht corruption case to find out about the involvement of former Honduran functionaries.

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1145548-410/honduras-odebrecht-soborno-coimas-maccih-empresas-corrupcion->

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/21/manifestantes-le-bailan-perreo-a-policias-video/>

24/01/18

(Re)Elections - MADJ, Bajo Aguán, Repression, Protests, EU, OAS, JOH, Analysis, Liberal Party, Bonsai Parties, Congress; Drug Trafficking; Migration; Budget; Corruption; and the Army's Hitmen

MADJ denounces the murder of two of their active members, Ramón Fiallos in Arizona, Tela and Geovanny Díaz in Pajuiles, Tela. The former was shot by state security forces during a protest and the latter was assassinated by men with police uniforms after dragging him out of his house at 4am.

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/23/Pronunciamento-Ante-los-2-recientes-cr%C3%ADmenes-en-contra-del-MADJ>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/por-represion-militar-muere-dirigente-del-madj/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/vestidos-de-policias-ejecutan-a-vecino-de-pajuiles/>

The Regional Agrarian Platform of the Aguán Valley denounces the recent statement by Coronel Hugo Coca, the head of Fusina and the Xatruch III operation. He called the campesino leaders a group of "armed criminals". The Platform also condemns a recent violent eviction of a protest in Sabá. Defensores en Línea reported about the eviction that the soldiers raided houses of protesters the day after the protest to further intimidate them and to arrest at least five people. It goes without saying that they had neither arrest warrants nor warrants to enter the houses. Hedme Castro criticizes the role of CONADEH in this which failed to come to the support of the people. CONADEH itself calls out to the MP demanding that it won't allow the cases of post-electoral violence to remain in impunity.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/criminalizan-lideres-campesinos-del-movimiento-social-y-popular-en-el-aguan/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/militares-sacan-de-sus-propias-casas-a-manifestantes-en-saba/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/militares-policias-invaden-departamento-colon-desatan-fuerte-persecucion-manifestantes/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/indefension-la-ciudadania-honduras-evidente-reprochable-caso-choluteca/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/conadeh-insta-a-la-fiscalia-evitar-impunidad-de-hechos-violentos-en-manifestaciones-post-electorales.html>

Criterio reports on another assassination of a protester, the young Libre activist José Armando Mariona was murdered in San Pedro Sula. Defensores en Línea reports on the initial hearing in the criminalization case against social activist Edwin Robelo Espinal. According to his lawyer, Karol Cárdenas from COFADEH, the MP was not able to present any proof that Edwin took part in the acts of vandalism he had been charged with. Nevertheless, the judge decided he has to await trial in the newly created maximum-security prison La Tólva. PBI emitted an alert regarding "the serious increase of attacks against human rights defenders in Honduras' post-electoral context": Amnesty International calls out to the Honduran state to ensure the right to peaceful assembly. Also national human rights organization denounce the violence by the state security forces. CEM-H holds the JOH regime directly responsible for the most recent murders linked with the post-electoral crisis.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/continuan-los-asesinatos-manifestantes-manos-los-cuerpos-represivos-del-estado/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/23/noche-violenta-en-honduras-asesinan-a-tres-opositores-y-desaparecen-a-una-persona/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/dictan-auto-de-prision-contra-el-activista-social-y-popular-edwin-espinal/>

http://www.pbi-honduras.org/fileadmin/user_files/projects/honduras/files/Alertas/180122HOP_Alerts_8_DefendersSituationPost-Electoral_01.pdf

http://www.pbi-honduras.org/fileadmin/user_files/projects/honduras/files/Alertas/180122HOP_Alerta_8_SituacionDefensoresPostelectoral.pdf

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/amr37/7755/2018/en/>

<http://www.cemh.org.hn/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/comunicado-22-de-enero-1.pdf>

El Tiempo spoke with a daring woman who faced up to dozens of soldiers and police agents to reclaim her right to protest. The MP threatens the employees of the forensic medicine department who participate in the nationwide protests and strike with sanctions. Criterio reports on a protest in the Dominican Republic, where its inhabitants denounce the decision by its president to recognize JOH as the winner of Honduras' fraudulent elections.

<https://tiempo.hn/mujer-enfrento-antimotines-marcha-alianza/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/ministerio-publico-amenaza-sancionar-empleados-medicina-forense-participen-paros/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/dominicanos-expresan-repudio-ante-reconocimiento-hernandez-parte-del-presidente-pais/>

The Honduran diaspora in Spain together with various social movements and NGOs will present a petition to the European Parliament through Podemos' parliamentarian Lola Sánchez Caldentey. She was also part of the electoral observation mission by the EU. She said that the final report of the mission will be out in the second week of February and she is confident that it will conclude that the Honduran elections were "not free, nor clean, nor democratic".

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/podemos-llevara-a-bruselas-la-peticion-de-justicia-de-la-comunidad-hondurena-en-espana/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/podemos-llevar-bruselas-la-peticion-justicia-la-comunidad-hondurena-espana/>

The OAS in person of its General Secretary Luis Almagro, meanwhile, continues to send out mixed signals...

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/almagro-reafirma-su-aval-al-critico-informe-electoral-tras-apoyar-a-hernandez.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/consejo-permanente-de-oea-aun-no-toma-ninguna-determinacion-con-honduras-segun-aristides-mejia.html>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2017-oea-da-un-paso-atras-y-de-forma-subliminal-reconoce-al-gobierno-de-joh>

Radio Progreso spoke with the political analyst and three-times former Nationalist congressman Raúl Pineda. According to him, there is disagreement with JOH inside the National Party, but nobody dares speaking up. He speaks of a party managed by terror. JOH, meanwhile, continues to confuse the public regarding the location for the planned inauguration. Thailand joins the list of countries congratulating JOH.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4191-%E2%80%99Cen-el-partido-nacional-hay-inconformidad-con-joh-pero-nadie-se-atreve-a-decirlo-p%C3%BAblicamente%E2%80%9D-ra%C3%BAI-pineda>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2665-sin-pudor-joh-decora-tercera-opcion-para-toma-de-posesion>

<https://tiempo.hn/oficial-toma-de-posesion-sera-en-el-estadio-nacional-de-tegucigalpa/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/tailandia-reconoce-triunfo-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-en-elecciones-generales.html>

Observation N-26, a coalition of NGOs, presents three possible scenarios for Honduras: i) a transition government which would call for new elections or for a constituent assembly; ii) a unifying national government or; iii) a National Party government which would mean a Honduras stuck in crisis.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/on-26-propone-dialogo-analiza-tres-posibles-escenarios-salida-la-crisis/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/23/observacion-n-26-pide-a-politicos-en-conflicto-buscar-mediador-para-dialogar/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/organizacion-n-26-pide-verdadero-dialogo-de-elites-politicas-para-solucionar-crisis-en-honduras.html>

The Liberal Party chose Elvin Santos to lead them in Congress. This has caused some stir inside the Liberal Party.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/23/espaldas-luis-zelaya-grupo-diputados-liberales-elige-elvin-santos-jefe-bancada/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/23/villeda-confirma-que-eleccion-de-elvin-como-jefe-de-bancada-es-irregular/>

Luis Hércules reports on a recent television program in which the four bonsai parties tried to explain their support for the National Party.

<http://elpulso.hn/3030-2/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2666-general-golpista-entrego-congreso-hondureno-al-partido-nacional>

El Tiempo spoke with several political analyst who all criticize that the political opposition was once more ignored when deciding on the new (and old) leadership in Congress.

<https://tiempo.hn/segun-analistas-fue-error-no-dar-la-palabra-a-la-oposicion-en-eleccion-de-junta-directiva/>

The Supreme Court will hear the case of Liberal congressman Fredy Nájera on January 29. He is accused of drug trafficking and may be extradited to the US.

<https://tiempo.hn/proximo-29-enero-diputado-fredy-najera-ira-audiencia/>

Amnesty International published a new report on how the "Mexican migration authorities are routinely turning back thousands of people from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala to their countries without considering the risk to their life and security upon return, in many cases violating international and domestic law by doing so".

<https://www.amnestyusa.org/reports/overlooked-under-protected-mexicos-deadly-refoulement-of-central-americans-seeking-asylum/>

An analysis by CESPAD finds the new budget for 2018 not to be inclusive for women. Furthermore, they criticize the focus on the reduction of the public debt - a similar amount as is spend on education and health.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/presupuesto-2018-no-es-inclusivo-para-mujeres-y-orientado-a-pago-de-deuda-publica-segun-cespad.html>

According to La Prensa, the MACCIH and the MP now have information about contacts to Honduras in the Odebrecht corruption case.

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1145883-410/identificados-contactos-odebrecht-honduras-mel_zelaya-ministerio_publico

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1145855-466/equipo-especial-de-la-maccih-investiga-los-pasos-de-odebrecht-por-honduras>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4190-sicariato-militar-y-una-propuesta-de-justicia-23-enero-2018>

25/01/18

Impunity; (Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, Militarization, US, National Party, Dialogue; US; Forced Disappearance; and Electoral Soccer

The MACCIH denounced in a new press release that Congress stealthily bolstered impunity in Honduras by a reform of the Organic Bill of the Budget, which was part of the approval of the new budget for 2018. The change will stop corruption investigations into current and former politicians. It is no surprise that one of the politicians benefiting is the just now reelected president of Congress, Mauricio Oliva, who is also being investigated as part of the recently uncovered corruption network in Congress. The MACCIH calls the whole affair "a pact for impunity".

Criterio highlights another controversy about the reform. It appeared in La Gaceta on January 19, even though Congress claimed that Congress approved it on January 20.

Manuela Zelaya claims that the bill has no legal character because it was not discussed in a plenary session.

Honduran civil society organizations rejected the reform, highlighting their continuous support for the MACCIH.

COHEP denounces it as well.

US representative Heide Fulton calls it "a monumental setback in the

fight against corruption".

The Supreme Court, meanwhile, calls for the respect of the judicial independence...

...the TSC claims that the MACCIH only misunderstood the reforms...

...and the IAIP calls out to the MACCIH to "respect Honduran institutionalism..."

The international press already picked this up. The Seattle Times has already picked this up. They cite Juan Jimenez from the MACCIH's press conference: "We don't understand how it is possible to emit a rule that looks to give impunity to 30 people who know they are under investigation." El Faro concentrates on the possibility that the MACCIH will leave Honduras.

<https://mobile.twitter.com/JuaJimenezMayor/status/956194157051162624/photo/1>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2668-presidente-del-congreso-hondureno-es-investigado-por-corrupcion>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/un-pacto-de-impunidad-entre-diputados-con-reforma-ley-de-presupuesto-denuncia-la-maccih>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/reforma-fue-aprobada-20-enero-aparece-publicada-la-gaceta-19-enero/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/mel-zelaya-dice-reforma-promueve-la-corrupcion-nula-no-fue-discutida-pleno-del-congreso/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/burdo-intento-proteger-los-corruptos-califican-organizaciones-sociedad-civil-lo-actuado-congreso-nacional/>

<https://tiempo.hn/cohep-en-contra-del-pacto-de-impunidad-denunciado-por-la-maccih/>

<https://tiempo.hn/pacto-de-impunidad-heide-fulton-lo-considera-como-un-monumental-retroceso/>

<https://tiempo.hn/csj-pide-la-maccih-respetar-independencia-no-presionar/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/24/maccih-malinterpreta-reformas-en-ley-de-presupuesto-tsc/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/24/guerra-de-comunicados-iaip-exige-a-la-maccih-que-respete-institucionalidad/>

<https://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/anti-corruption-mission-denounces-legal-reforms-in-honduras/>

<https://elfaro.net/es/201801/centroamerica/21394/Misi%C3%B3n-contra-la-Impunidad-amenaza-con-irse-de-Honduras.htm>

Giorgio Trucchi held an interview with Salvador Nasralla in which he stated that the protests are long from over as the Honduran people will never recognizing usurper president.

And while the protests continue, the number of victims by state repression does as well. Four protesters/social leaders have been murdered since the start of the week of protests on January 20.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190586>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/24/terror-militarizacion-formula-del-continuismo/>

Sandra Cuffe reports for Towards Freedom on the repression by state security forces against peaceful protesters. She gives the victims of the repression a face by telling the story of the 16-year-old high school student Virgilio Yareth Ávila who was shot by the police on December 4th.

<https://towardfreedom.com/archives/americas/there-are-no-human-rights-here-honduran-anti-fraud-protesters-clamor-for-justice-as-state-killings-continue/>

Radio Progreso had a chance to talk with the former army captain Santos Orellana Rodríguez. According to him, there is no doubt that Army Intelligence is behind the murder, torture and disappearances of

protesters and social leaders. Furthermore, it is in total control by JOH. Reporteros de Investigación accuses the Armed Forces of spreading false information about their use of tear gas.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4193-inteligencia-militar-est%C3%A1-detr%C3%A1s-de-asesinatos-torturas-y-desapariciones-dice-excapit%C3%A1n-de-las-fuerzas-armadas>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/24/cupula-militar-entrega-informacion-falsa-sobre-uso-de-bombas-lacrimogenas/>

A US civil society delegation traveled to Honduras in solidarity with the Honduran people and to return to the US to talk to the public as well as members of Congress about what is happening in Honduras. The delegation was organized by the Garífuna activist and doctor Luther Castillo Harry and included among others the famous actor Danny Glover. La Tribuna chose the following title for its article on this delegation: "Hollywood actor Danny Glover is in Honduras for a cultural exchange"...

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/delegacion-estadounidense-abogara-honduras-ante-congreso-pais/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/24/actor-hollywood-danny-glover-esta-honduras-intercambio-cultural/>

Fernando Buen Abad from the Culture and Communication Institute writes about the 'dirty media war' by the National Party and orchestrated by J.J. Rendón against the political opposition.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/42453/>

Radio Progreso outlines what they think about the dialogue and about the circumstances needed to be successful.

Víctor Meza explains why state repression is the wrong remedy to counter the protests and how it rather intensifies the tension. He then goes on to explain how a dialogue by itself won't solve anything either, it has to fulfill certain conditions.

It is no surprise, that the dialogue proposed by the National Party and for which it now asks the UN for "technical assistance" does not fulfill any of the conditions.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4192-as%C3%AD-pensamos-sobre-el-di%C3%A1logo-24-enero-2018>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/el-falso-remedio/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/24/gobierno-de-honduras-pide-a-la-onu-acompanamiento-tecnico-para-el-dialogo/>

In the midst of post-electoral repression by state security forces, "the U.S. government, through U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), presented Honduras with a large donation of communication technology equipment to strengthen their natural disaster, emergency readiness, and response capacities" worth \$500'000.

Witness for Peace launched an urgent action calling out to US Senators to cut US security aid to Honduras.

Movimiento M4 published a report on the security foreign policy of the US in Latin America.

<https://dialogo-americas.com/en/articles/southcom-donation-strengthens-honduran-emergency-network>

<https://www.actionnetwork.org/letters/honduras-crisis-continues-tell-your-senators-to-withhold-aid>

<http://movimientom4.org/2018/01/la-militarizacion-de-los-recursos-naturales/>

"Él camino fue corto, pero su huella será eterna. Porque solo muere aquel que se olvida." Defensores en Línea speaks with Nohemi Pérez, whose brother Samuel Pérez was forcefully disappeared with three other young men 36 years ago.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/36-anos-forjando-los-suenos-de-los-detenidos-desaparecidos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/24/coherencia-la-lucha-no-se-pueden-asumir-diputaciones-ilegales-avalan-fraude-dejan-sin-fuerza-llamado-la-insurreccion/>

26/01/18

National Police; Berta - GAYPE, COPINH; (Re)Election - Women, Protests, Repression, Journalists, Political Opposition, JOH, US, Analysis, Mayors, Dialogue, Congress; MACCIH; IHSS; Corruption;

Big news regarding Honduras' new head of police: " The newly appointed national police chief in Honduras, a key ally in the U.S. war on drugs, helped a cartel leader pull off the delivery of nearly a ton of cocaine, according to a confidential security report obtained by the Associated Press."

(The second link leads to a more detailed article)

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/secret-report-honduras-top-cop-helped-cartel-move-52621849>

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/secret-report-honduras-top-cop-helped-cartel-move-52621851>

<http://www.elnuevoherald.com/noticias/mundo/america-latina/article196786579.html>

The GAYPE report, an investigation by a group of international experts into the assassination of Berta Cáceres, is now available in English.

<https://www.gaipe.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/GAYPE-Report-English.pdf>

The New Internationalist published an interview with COPINH's general coordinator Bertha Zúniga Cáceres.

<https://newint.org/features/web-exclusive/2018/01/22/strength-from-our-ancestors>

Due to yesterday's Day of the Honduran Woman, several articles are dedicated to the important role women play especially in the post-electoral crisis. Radio Progreso wrote an open letter to Honduras' women.

Giorgio Trucchi published a photo reel of protesting women.

Contra Corriente adds some more photos and an article on how women are the last line of defense against the dictatorship.

The women's movement took to the street for a special protest against state violence.

More articles come from MADJ and Criterio.

El Pulso, meanwhile, concentrates on the still persisting glass ceiling in Congress and Honduran politics in general.

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4194-a-las-mujeres-hondure%C3%B1as-25-enero-2018>

<http://www.rel-uita.org/honduras/mujeres-hondurenas-movilizadas-lucha/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/25/una-dictadura-confrontada-defendida-mujeres/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2021-en-el-dia-nacional-de-la-mujer-vestidas-de-negro-denuncian-violencia-desde-el-estado>

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/25/25-de-enero-Dignidad-y-justicia-para-la-mujer-que-defiende-su-vida-y-su-patria>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/25/honduras-machetes-calzones-joh-mujeres-protestan-fraude/>

<http://elpulso.hn/techo-cristal-politica/>

Delfina Bermúdez explains who the mode and place of protests change due to the ever increasing repression by state security forces.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190630>

Some 40 international human rights organization and networks denounce the ongoing violence against protesters and human rights defenders in Honduras and demand actions from the international community. Nina Lakhani wrote for the Guardian on the targeted attacks against human rights defenders in Honduras as part of the post-electoral repression. El Pulso dedicated an article to the recently murdered Don Anselmo, who was shot by state security forces on Saturday in Sabá, Colón.

See Attachment

<http://www.conexihon.hn/estado-hondureno-continua-la-violacion-de-derechos-humanos-denuncian-organizaciones-internacionales>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/24/honduras-environment-activists-threats-security-forces>

<http://elpulso.hn/anselmo-villareal/>

For a second time in less than two weeks, the UNETV journalist Cesar Omar Silva was denied entry to Congress.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/una-vez-m%C3%A1s-impiden-acceso-al-congreso-al-periodista-cesar-silva>

Delfina Bermúdez calls out to the political opposition to show more coherence and renounce on their positions as mayor and congresswo/men. They cannot demand from the Honduran people to continue protesting and facing repression while they benefit from their status as elected representatives. According to her, the last four years have shown how powerless the political opposition is in Congress without the support of the streets.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190611>

JOH did not appear in Congress on its first day in the new setting. According to Criterio, he feared the reaction of the political opposition.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/25/herandez-no-llega-al-congreso-miedo-abucheados/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/25/medio-senalamientos-corrupcion-se-instala-congreso-honduras/>

A US Emergency Faith Delegation arrived in Honduras yesterday and was greeted by Padre Melo and fellow Honduras. Together they commemorated the martyrs who have died since the elections in the large public space in the airport.

Another US delegation organized by Luther Castillo Harry continues to make headlines for its well-known participants. Interestingly, El Tiempo translated a critical article by The Root to Spanish and published it on its website.

<https://www.facebook.com/RadioProgresoPaginaOficial/videos/vb.178801698840423/1541796222540957/?type=2&theater>

<https://www.theroot.com/danny-glover-and-cedric-the-entertainer-are-serving-as-1822350940>

<https://tiempo.hn/danny-glover-sirve-de-proteccion-a-hondureno/>

The Economist sees Honduran as a victim of 'Realpolitik'. They recognize that the Honduran elections were "fishy" and JOH's reelection bid illegitimate, but "[o]utside Honduras, almost no one is listening". Most

Latin American countries fail to support the opposition as "[t]hey dislike in general the idea of outsiders influencing countries' domestic politics. (...) That is especially true of the seven that are holding national elections in 2018".

<https://www.economist.com/news/americas/21735648-juan-orlando-hernandez-has-little-legitimacy-few-real-foes-president-honduras>

Radio Progreso reports on an overlooked topic, the elections of Honduras' 298 mayors. Yesterday, the new or reelected mayors took office and 173 of them, i.e. almost 60%, belong to the National Party. One of these Nationalist mayors is Nasry Tito Asfura, who was reelected for a second mandate in Tegucigalpa.

<http://radioprogreso.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4195-partido-nacional-mantiene-control-de-alcald%C3%ADas-en-honduras>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/nasry-asfura-inicia-segundo-mandato-como-alcalde-del-districto-central/>

El Tiempo reports on JOH's call to the UN to ask for "technical assistance" in his dialogue.

<https://tiempo.hn/honduras-solicita-un-mediador-internacional-a-la-onu-para-el-dialogo-nacional/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1146539-466/gobierno-oficializa-petici%C3%B3n-a-la-onu-para-facilitar-di%C3%A1logo>

Congress started its new term under protest by the political opposition.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/honduras-accidentado-inicio-de-primera-legislatura-en-el-parlamento/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/oliva-se-califica-como-amigable-constructor-de-consensos-y-reitera-el-dialogo/>

The Coalition against Impunity denounced in a press release the "impunity pact" (see yesterday) and demands that the MACCIH releases the name of the 60 congresswo/men having been investigated for corruption. The Espacio ACI, the Association of International Cooperation, voiced its concern as well.

And so does the Central-American Institute of Fiscal Studies (Icefi). The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) demands its derogation. Ciprodeh's Wilfredo Méndez believes that these legal changes are a direct attack against the MACCIH and that its days in Honduras are over. Reporteros de Investigación presents the seven cases by MACCIH which are now in danger due to the impunity pact.

According to the MACCIH, 300 million Lempiras were stolen by congresswo/men in the last three Congress' through the use of fake social projects.

Congress' president Mauricio Oliva reacts to all this by nominating a committee which should explain to everyone why they are mistaken about the reforms.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-coalicion-contra-la-impunidad-repudia-el-pacto-de-impunidad/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/25/la-asociacion-cooperacion-internacional/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2669-icefi-rechaza-normas-que-reproducen-corrupcion-fiscal-en-honduras>

<https://tiempo.hn/cna-pide-derogar-reforma/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/25/la-maccih-los-dias-contados-wilfredo-mendez/>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/25/los-7-casos-de-la-maccih-en-riesgo-por-pacto-de-impunidad/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/maccih-y-ministerio-publico-descubren-oficina-falsificadora-de-documentos-para-justificar-gastos/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/maccih-tomaron-esa-decision-porque-ya-sabemos-lo-que-pasara-en-el-tsc/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/nombran-comision-para-explicar-a-todos-alcances-de-ley-de-presupuesto/>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1146574-410/congreso-nombra-comision-explicar-reforma-ley-presupuesto-corrupcion-impunidad>

The former vice-secretary of Serna, Roberto Dario Cardona Valle, was sentenced to five years in prison and a 50'000 Lempiras penalty for his role in the IHSS corruption case. But recent changes to the Penal Code may help him to circumvent his prison sentence all together. In cases of corruption, you don't have to go to prison if the sentence is below six years. In Cardona Valle's case, this may be a bit different because he also faces charges in the case of Agua Zarca.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/25/condena-irrisoria-imponen-ex-funcionario-implicado-mega-fraude-del-seguro-social/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2670-honduras-cinco-anos-de-carcel-para-pep-gordo-del-partido-nacional>

The former vice-secretary of agriculture under Pepe Lobo was arrested and an arrest warrant was released against the former transport director under Maduro.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/acusan-a-exdirector-de-transporte-por-enriquecimiento-ilicito-sera-capturado1/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/25/acusan-a-exdirector-de-transporte-por-enriquecimiento-ilicito-sera-capturado1/>

27/01/18

National Police; (Re)Election - Protests, Repression, Journalists, US, Liberal Party; Congress; Corruption; MACCIH; Odebrecht; Drug Trafficking; and an Emotional Roller-Coaster - Honduran Version

ContraCorriente summarizes well the situation Honduras wakes up to today: a situation of utter uncertainty. InSight Crime almost seems to agree, writing that "[n]ew corruption and impunity allegations emerging on the eve of the inauguration of Honduras President Juan Orlando Hernández have cast doubt over his supposed security successes and set a deeply troubling tone for the coming term of a president already struggling for legitimacy."

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/26/incertidumbre-ante-toma-posesion-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/corruption-and-impunity-allegations-seed-doubts-for-second-term-of-honduras-president/>

The New York Times also picked up the story about the drug trafficking links of the newly nominated head of the National Police Force, Jose David Aguilar Moran. The Washington Post published an excerpt from the confidential Honduran government report on him. The Honduran media also reports on it, i.e. they mostly reproduce the AP article. It seems that even the main media outlets cannot ignore such revelations. The highly criticized purging committee announced that it met for an emergency meeting yesterday.

They try to whitewash their role...

...and they write in a press release that the newly elected director will be reevaluated.

As always, Honduras Culture and Politics offers a good summary.

<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2018/01/26/world/americas/ap-lt-honduras-police-corruption.html>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/excerpt-from-secret-honduran-report-on-new-top-cop/2018/01/26/f4856670-02f9-11e8-86b9-8908743c79dd_story.html

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/26/jefe-la-policia-honduras-ayudo-capo-entregar-780-kilos-cocaina/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/26/informe-secreto-divulgado-ap-jefe-la-policia-hondurena-ayudo-narco/>

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1146582-410/polic%C3%ADa-honduras-narcotrafico-nuevo_herald-ap-wilter_blanco

<https://tiempo.hn/jefe-de-policia-jose-david-aguilar/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/depuradores-no-tuvieron-conocimiento-sobre-nexos-de-nuevo-jefe-policial-con-el-narco/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/depurador-promete-que-el-director-de-la-policia-nacional-sera-revaluado1/>

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2018/01/new-police-chief-tied-to-wilter-blanco.html>

JOH is expected to be inaugurated today at the national stadium in Tegucigalpa. The Opposition Alliance is calling out to everyone for another day of protests throughout Honduras beginning at 6am.

The stadium and its surroundings have been further militarized.

Criterion writes about a war-like atmosphere.

Guatemalan organizations and individuals send a note of solidarity to the Honduran protesters.

Guatemalan organizations and individuals send a note of solidarity to the Honduran protesters.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/lider-opositor-hondureno-nasralla-convoca-protestas-contra-toma-de-posesion-de-presidente/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/oposicion-hondurena-se-moviliza-contra-la-reeleccion-de-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/26/nacionalistas-madrugaran-toma-posesion-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/26/ambiente-guerra-se-vive-antesala-toma-posesion-joh/>

http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1146807-410/veinte-dispositivos-seguridad-blindan-toma_de_posesion

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-es-guatemala-solidaridad-centroamericanista-para-vencer-el-fraude-la-imposicion-y-a-los-dictadores-en-toda-la-region/>

The Coalition against Impunity held a press conference yesterday, in which it presented its newest report on the toll of the post-electoral repression. It counts 33 murders of Honduran citizens, more than 200 hurt people and 117 faced with judicial charges. They hold the state security forces responsible as the material authors of the crime.

Furthermore, they denounce the failings of the protection mechanism.

One of the criminalized protesters is the newly reelected Pinu councilor José Javier Rubí Suazo, who faces trumped up charges for setting a police station on fire...

One of the criminalized protesters is the newly reelected Pinu councilor José Javier Rubí Suazo, who faces trumped up charges for setting a police station on fire...

The Latin American Working Group published an important summary in English on the human rights abuses in post-electoral Honduras.

A group of European solidarity organizations denounce the violent repression by state security forces against protesters in Honduras. They highlight the similarities to the coup in 2009 and lament the role of the international community.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2023-informe-preliminar-de-la-coalicion-contra-la-impunidad-33-asesinatos-64-defensores-perseguidos-heridos-y-golpeados-por-manifestarse>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/muerte-y-carcel-33-asesinatos-politicos-y-un-centenar-de-criminalizados-consuma-reeleccion-ilegal>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/mandan-a-el-pozo-a-regidor-acusado-de-quemar-posta-policial/>

<http://www.lawg.org/action-center/lawg-blog/69-general/1981-protest-met-with-brutal-repression-a-summary-of-human-rights-abuses-in-post-electoral-honduras>

See Attachment (Spanish and French)

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-el-pueblo-tiene-derecho-a-recurrir-a-la-insurreccion-en-defensa-del-orden-constitucional/>

C-Libre denounces that the police illegally raided the house of the two journalists Dunia Montoya and Bartolo Fuentes in El Progreso.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/polic%C3%ADa-allana-ilegalmente-casa-de-periodistas-en-el-progreso>

The US Emergency Faith Delegation who arrived this week in Honduras (see yesterday) has its own blog where one can read for example about their arrival in Honduras and the mass they held together with Hondurans at the airport to commemorate the martyrs of the post-electoral crisis. The National Catholic Reporter published an article by Tom Web, who participates in the delegation. According to El Tiempo, the delegation was harassed by soldiers.

<https://rootcausesdelegation.wordpress.com/2018/01/26/delegation-of-interfaith-social-justice-leaders-arrive-in-honduras/>

<https://rootcausesdelegation.wordpress.com/2018/01/26/a-mass-for-martyrs-and-the-struggle-of-a-people/>

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/being-witness-election-aftermath-honduras>

<https://tiempo.hn/detrata-como-delincuentes-a-delegados-de-ddhh-estadounidenses/>

The Liberal Party reiterated that it does not recognize the JOH regime and asked its congresswo/men not to attend his inauguration.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/26/partido-liberal-no-reconoce-nuevo-gobierno-herandez-e-insta-diputados-no-asistir-toma-posesion/>

Radio Progreso reports on the protest erupting in Congress on its first day with the newly (re)elected congresswo/men.

<http://radioprogreso.hn/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4196-autoritarismo-y-denuncia-por-corrupci%C3%B3n-marcan-instalaci%C3%B3n-de-nuevo-congreso-nacional>

Honduras Culture and Politics also dedicates a new article series to Congress focusing on corruption. The article highlights how Congress "actively choose to write legislation that facilitates corruption and impunity. No amount of MACCIH investigating crimes and suggesting model legislation will fix that. But only now is MACCIH waking up to the reality of Honduras."

<https://hondurasculturepolitics.blogspot.ch/2018/01/congressional-corruption-part-1.html>

MADJ published a press release denouncing the impunity pact resulting from reforms to the budget bill.

The MACCIH also does not mince words when it states that these reforms were not an error (as the National Party claims), but rather a well-planned crime.

Two funders of the MACCIH, the US and Canada, joined the protest against

the impunity pact.

According to ConfidencialHN, the MACCIH continues to investigate the network of corrupt congresswo/men. Yesterday, the intervened together with the MP at two foundations that may have been used to distribute money.

<https://www.movimientoamplio.org/single-post/2018/01/26/Pacto-de-impunidad-Las-reformas-al-Presupuesto-2018-un-nuevo-acto-criminal-que-pretende-el-saqueo-impune-de-Honduras>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/maccih-esto-no-es-un-error-no-es-una-errata-es-un-delito/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2675-maccih-investigara-funcionarios-por-publicacion-en-la-gaceta>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/26/paises-donantes-la-maccih-se-suman-al-repudio-ante-pacto-impunidad/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/intervienen-dos-fundaciones-que-habrian-drenado-multimillonarias-sumas-de-dinero/>

The MP informed that high functionaries in the Zelaya and Lobo governments as well as in the Micheletti dictatorship have been involved in the Odebrecht corruption case.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/26/ministerio-publico-revela-que-siete-funcionarios-estan-involucrados-en-trama-corrupta-odebrecht/>

<https://tiempo.hn/mas-de-media-docena-de-exfuncionarios-hondurenos-investigados-por-caso-odebrecht/>

The lawyer Andrés Acosta García who worked for the Rosenthal family in the US has now himself been charged with drug trafficking.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/abogado-de-los-rosenthal-es-condenado-14-meses-de-prisi%C3%B3n-en-nueva-york>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/item/4199-hasta-la-n%C3%A1usea>

28/01/18

(Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, Journalists, Fraud, JOH, Analysis, Dialogue, JOH's Cabinet; and the Tale of Mary Elizabeth "Lizzy" Flores Flakes

History repeats itself, first as tragedy, second as farce.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190658>

The New York Times covers the protest around JOH's inauguration and also reports on the wider circumstances of his illegal reelection, e.g. the recent legal backstabbing of the MACCIH. The Real News published two video reports to the protests.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/27/world/americas/honduras-president-inauguration-protests-juan-orlando-hernandez.html>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/27/barrios-tegucigalpa-escenarios-represion-previo-toma-posesion/>

<http://therealnews.com/t2/story:20995:Honduras%3A-President-Hern%E1ndez%92s-Inauguration-Rejected-by-Protesters>

<http://therealnews.com/t2/story:20996:Honduras:-The-Never-ending-Coup>

C-Libre denounces the attacks on protesters in the night before the inauguration.

The UN Human Rights Office in Honduras denounces the attack against HRDs Wilfredo Méndez.

Giorgio Trucchi reports on the renewed repression by state security forces against Hondurans protesting JOH's inauguration.

Radio Progreso published a list of the 33 civilian victims of the post-electoral repression by the JOH regime.

Joaquín A. Mejía Rivera believes that part of the findings by the Truth and Reconciliation Committee (which was formed after the coup d'état) can be used now to go after the assassinations by state security forces.

The Costa Rican Human Rights Association (ACODEHU) wrote an open letter to the Central American presidents demanding that they speak up against the human rights violations taking place in Honduras.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/la-noche-previa-la-toma-de-posesi%C3%B3n-presidencial-militares-reprimen-manifestantes>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/27/onu-condena-agresion-a-defensor-de-ddhh-por-la-fuerza-publica/>

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190656>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/27/opositores-denuncian-emboscada-de-militares-durante-manifestacion11/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/punta-de-gas-y-bala-viva-militares-inmovilizan-manifestaci%C3%B3n-pac%C3%ADfica-contr-la-reelecci%C3%B3n>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4204-gobierno-ilegal-de-juan-orlando-se-impone-a-trav%C3%A9s-de-represi%C3%B3n-asesinatos-y-violaciones-a-los-derechos-humanos>

<https://joaquinmejia.rivera.blogspot.ch/2018/01/sicariato-militar-y-una-propuesta-de.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/27/acodehu-exige-presidentes-centro-america/>

The international journalist from AFP, Orlando Sierra, was hit on the head by a tear gas canister while covering yesterday's protests.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/fotoperiodista-de-agencia-internacional-de-noticias-herido-por-militares-durante>

Univision addresses an under-reported strategy used by the JOH regime to buy votes, the so-called Bono Vida Mejor (Better Life Benefit).

<https://www.univision.com/noticias/america-latina/hernandez-compro-votos-al-repartir-beneficios-sociales-en-honduras>

ContraCorriente writes about an inauguration "between prayers and tear gas".

Radio Progreso, meanwhile, writes about two realities, the diplomatic one and the one from the streets.

César Indiano calls the inauguration democracy's funeral ceremony in Honduras.

Joaquín A. Mejía Rivera presents five reasons why yesterday a dictatorship officially started in Honduras.

Proceso Digital cites the human rights ombudsman Roberto Cáceres saying that JOH's inauguration strengthens Honduras' institutionalism...

ConfidencialHN transcribed parts of JOH's acceptance speech.

The presidents of the EU, Donald Tusk, and the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, congratulated JOH in a letter.

The currently highest US representative in Honduras, Heide Fulton assisted JOH's inauguration and congratulated him in person.

The main media outlets close to the JOH regime try to present the inauguration as a great success with a high attendance rate of the international community, ignoring that for the first time in Honduras' history other countries attended, if at all, only with local representatives.

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/27/plegarias-gas-lacrimogeno-toma-posesion-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4202-entre-la-diplomacia-y-la-represi%C3%B3n-joh-se-impone-en-la-presidencia>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4200-usurpador-ilegal-e-ileg%C3%ADtimo-27-enero-2018>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/27/ritual-mas-falso-triste-del-mundo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/27/hoy-comienza-oficialmente-una-dictadura-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/toma-de-posesion-es-un-acto-que-fortalece-la-institucionalidad-roberto-herrera.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/27/punta-armas-bendiciones-religiosas-hernandez-se-entroniza-poder/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/27/en-cadena-de-radio-y-television-quitan-y-vuelven-a-poner-la-banda-a-joh/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/27/la-union-europea-felicita-hernandez-investidura/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/27/heidi-fulton-felicita-hernandez-segundo-mandato/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/comunidad-internacional-asiste-a-la-toma-de-posesion-del-presidente-hernandez.html>

<http://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1147035-410/comunidad-internacional-respalda-nuevo-gobierno-hernandez>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1146994-466/honduras-m%C3%A1s-de-130-pa%C3%ADses-y-organizaciones-saludaron-asunci%C3%B3n-de-juan-orlando>

Joaquín A. Mejía Rivera presents a "short proposal to continue the resistance in this new chapter in the defense of democracy". A must read.

<https://joaquinmejia.rivera.blogspot.ch/2018/01/una-breve-propuesta-para-seguir.html>

Salvador Nasralla continues to send mixed messages about a dialogue and his participation.

El Heraldo writes that a UN exploratory mission will travel next week to Honduras.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/27/nasralla-asegura-que-con-la-ayuda-de-la-oea-asistira-a-dialogo11/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1147008-466/una-misi%C3%B3n-exploratoria-de-la-onu-llegar%C3%A1-esta-semana-a-honduras>

JOH has already sworn in parts of his new cabinet.

<https://tiempo.hn/juan-orlando-hernandez-juramento-a-los-nuevos-ministros/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1146925-466/juramentan-nuevos-ministros-en-el-gabinete-del-presidente-juan-orlando-hern%C3%A1ndez>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/wilfredo-cerrato-asumira-presidencia-del-bch.html>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4201-cr%C3%B3nica-a-pie-de-p%C3%A1gina-de-un-voto-servil>

29/01/18

(Re)Elections - Protests, Repression, Militarization, US, Analysis, Dialogue; MACCIH; and This Is Honduras

The Honduran opposition joined by the US Emergency Faith Delegation held a vigil outside the US embassy in Tegucigalpa to commemorate the victims of state violence and demand justice.

BBC reports on Saturday's protest against JOH's inauguration.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/28/religiosos-estadounidenses-pediran-congresistas-quitien-la-ayuda-militar-honduras-respeten-la-democracia-video/>

<https://tiempo.hn/vigilia-embajada-eeuu-victimas-crisis-politica/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/realizan-vigilia-por-la-paz-y-los-derechos-humanos-frente-a-embajada-de-eeuu.html>

<http://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-42839192>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2024-entre-emboscadas-y-rechazo-a-nuevo-mandato-de-joh-miles-de-manifestantes-desafiaron-el-miedo>

The Honduras Solidarity Network of North America and COFADEH launched an urgent action calling for the freedom of Edwin Espinal and other political prisoners in Honduras. "Long-time Honduran activist Edwin Espinal has been jailed on charges related to protests against election fraud in Honduras. Due to his activism, he has been subject to State harassment, violence, and threats since the 2009 coup d'état. Immediate action is required to push for Edwin's release and to ensure his safety." CIPRODEH reports from the human rights violations they witnessed during Saturday's repression.

One of them involved their director Wilfredo Méndez who suffered an attack by state security forces.

ConexiHon published a list of arbitrary detention having taken place on Saturday.

Defensores en Línea even rights of a "men hunt" against protesters.

<https://freedwinespinallibertad.blogspot.ch/>

<http://quotha.net/free-edwin-bibliography/>

<http://ciprodeh.org.hn/noticias/acciones-de-monitoreo-por-violaciones-de-derechos-humanos-por-equipo-del-ciprodeh/>

<http://ciprodeh.org.hn/noticias/ataque-contra-defensor-de-derechos-humanos-wilfredo-mendez/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/27-de-enero-2018-el-hombre-se-impuso-contrala-ley-y-el-repudio-popular>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/caceria-humana-en-occidente/>

Contra Corriente reported on the militarized north in Honduras which served to repress Saturday's protests against the inauguration of JOH.

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/01/28/norte-desolado-acorralado-militares-policias/>

Vicki Cervantes, the North America coordinator of the Honduras Solidarity Network, gave an interview in the US radio program Loud & Clear about the situation in Honduras and its links to the US.

<https://www.spreaker.com/user/radiosputnik/right-wing-pro-us-honduran-government-fa>

Oscar Miguel Marroquín emphasizes the urgent need for a strategy to stop JOH before he can install a long-lasting dictatorship in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/28/estrategia-tactica-una-necesidad-urgente-tumbar-al-dictador/>

More media outlets report on the arrival of a UN mission to Honduras this week as part of technical support for JOH's dialogue.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/mision-exploradora-de-la-onu-llegara-esta-semana-a-honduras-anuncia-efrain-diaz-arrivillaga.html>

Juan Jiménez Mayor, the head of the MACCIH, traveled yesterday to the US to meet with OAS' Secretary General Luis Almagro. They will discuss the current anti-corruption investigations and the consequences of the impunity pact.

The Nationalist secretary of Congress, Tomás Zambrano, now says that they won't derogate the reforms to the budget bill which led to the widely denounced impunity pact.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/28/jefe-de-la-maccih-viaja-a-ee-uu-para-analizar-con-la-oea-investigaciones-por-corrupcion/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/28/juan-jimenez-viaja-washington-explicar-lo-esta-pasando-la-maccih/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/vocero-de-la-maccih-viaja-a-washington-tras-llamado-de-almagro.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/pacto-de-impunidad-no-seria-derogado/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/28/asi-es-honduras/>

30/01/18

Berta - Trial, COPINH; National Police; (Re)Elections - JOH, Journalists, OAS, US, Dialogue, Liberal Party; Bajo Aguán; LGBTI; Femicide; MACCIH; Palm Oil; IHSS; Violence; JOH; and 35 Years of Impunity

Yesterday, the trial against four of the accused in the murder trial of Berta Cáceres was supposed to take place. COPINH denounces that there is still no due process as they have not received the necessary information by the MP to prepare the trial. Furthermore, the intellectual authorship of the crime is still not investigated.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2018/01/el-copinh-informa-sobre-el-caso-de.html>

25 years ago, COPINH was founded as an organization to defend the rights of the Lenca people. Now they invite us to join them between March 22-24 to celebrate this and at the same time commemorate Berta Cáceres.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2018/01/invitacion-2-anos-de-la-siembra-de.html>

The National Police wants the MP to launch an investigation into the recent report by AP linking the newly nominated head of police José Morán to drug trafficking. To clarify, they don't want the head of police being investigated, rather the AP journalists.

<https://tiempo.hn/abogado-cupula-policial-pide-al-mp-investigar-informe-la-ap/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/honduras-querellaran-a-la-ap-por-informe-que-vincula-a-cupula-policial-con-narcos/>

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle comments on JOH's dictatorial power grab on Saturday.

See Attachment

C-Libre denounces that both national and international journalists were hindered to report on JOH's inauguration on Saturday.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/alerta/bloqueo-y-obstrucci%C3%B3n-informativa-en-actos-de-toma-de-posesi%C3%B3n-presidencial-en-honduras>

It seems that OAS General Secretary Luis Almagro has definitively backed up from his previous demands for new elections. In his newest statement, he only speaks of supporting the "urgent electoral reforms" and "strengthening the democratic institutions" (sic!) in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/29/almagro-anuncia-designacion-responsable-politico-impulsar-reformas-electorales-honduras/>

The US Emergency Faith Delegation met with the US representative in Honduras, Heide Fulton, expressing their grave concern about the US's support of JOH's dictatorship. They asked for a stop of security assistance. Leaving the embassy, they presented a press release.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/29/estadounidenses-piden-al-gobierno-pais- retire-reconocimiento-regimen-herandez/>

The newly created NGO Platform consisting of organization close to the JOH regime welcomes a possible mediation by the UN. But again, they do not mention any preconditions for a dialogue playing into the hands of JOH. The council nominated by JOH to organize the dialogue now speaks of a binding dialogue.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/29/plataforma-organizaciones-gobiernistas- instan-la-onu-respaldar-dialogo/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/sociedad-civil-y-ongs-piden-a-onu-aceptar-ser-facilitador-del-dialogo-en-honduras.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-herandez-esta-comprometido-con-dialogo-abierto-y-sin-condiciones-insiste-ebal-diaz.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1147592-466/junta-de-convocantes-asegura-que-el-di%C3%A1logo-ser-%C3%A1-vinculante-respaldado-en-una>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/junta-de-convocantes-politicos-en-conflicto-aceptan-dialogo-vinculante/>

The Liberal Party is split between those that recognize JOH as a legitimate president and those that do not.

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/parlamentaria-liberal-justifica-asistencia-a-toma-de-posesion-de-joh-luis-perdio/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/piden-a-liberales-no-integrar-comision-que-socializa-ley-que-debe-derogarse1/>

Several campesino organizations announced that they retook possession of land they had been evicted from in 2014 as an act of protest against the dictatorial government of JOH and as a response to the lack of justice in their cases.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/29/acto-rebelion-ante-gobierno-usurpador-campesinos-toman-posesion-tierras-aguan/>

Reporteros de Investigación published another installment of its series on the impunity reigning in cases of murdered LGBTI activists. This time they take a closer look at the murder of René Anthony Martínez Izaguirre in 2013 in Chamelecón in the south of San Pedro Sula.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/01/29/rene-martinez-el-lider-lgbti-silenciado-por-la-violencia/>

According to the newest report by UNAH's Violence Observatory, every 14 hours a woman is murdered in Honduras. CONADEH denounces the high impunity rate in cases of femicide.

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/cada-14-horas-muere-una-mujer-en-honduras-seg%C3%BAAn-el-ov-unah>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/persiste-impunidad-en-la-muerte-de-mujeres-seg%C3%BAAn-conadeh>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/visitaci%C3%B3n-padillallos-diputados-son-responsables-que-la-violencia-como-tal-se-convierta-en>

OAS General Secretary Luis Almagro reacts to a letter by JOH. Almagro highlights the "importance of deepening, strengthening and increasing the presence" of the MACCIH in Honduras.

In the second link, you find the letter JOH wrote to Almagro.

In the case of the five congresswo/men accused of corruption, the five challenged the mandate of the MACCIH.

Alberto Solórzano, evangelical pastor and member of the purging committee, seems to play on the side of the corrupt congresswo/men as he accuses the MACCIH of overstepping its mandate.

El Heraldo published an interview with the MACCIH's spokesperson Juan Jiménez Mayor from January 18.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/29/almagro-anuncia-designacion-responsable-politico-impulsar-reformas-electorales-honduras/>

<https://tiempo.hn/joh-le-escribe-almagro-le-dice-revisaria-pacto-impunidad-la-oea/>

<https://tiempo.hn/red-diputados-amaga-pedira-revisar-atribuciones-la-maccih/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/acusados-de-recibir-dinero-publico-pediran-revision-del-mandato-de-la-maccih/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/29/no-puede-pais-este-amenaza-una-pistola-la-cabeza-pastor-solorzano/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1147560-466/misi%C3%B3n-de-apoyo-contrala-corrupci%C3%B3n-y-la-impunidad-en-honduras-tras>

Dolores Valenzuela reports on the decision by the EU ban the use of palm oil in motor fuel starting in 2021 and the possible consequences for Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/29/union-europea-anuncia-ya-no-comprara-aceite-palma/>

Carlos Gustavo Corrales Regalado, accused of money laundering in the IHSS corruption case, was sent to prison to await his trial.

<https://tiempo.hn/tamara-envian-implicado-desfalco-millonario-del-ihss/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/prision-preventiva-para-implicado-en-megafraude-al-ihss.html>

Edwin Arias, a young student at the National Agriculture University (UNA), was murdered in Catacamas, Olancho.

<https://tiempo.hn/olancho-ultiman-estudiante-de-la-una/>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/45380/>

JOH promised the creation of a special task force to generate 20'000 new jobs.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/fuerza-de-tarea-invertira-l-3-400-millones-y-generara-mas-de-20-mil-empleos.html>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/29/joh-promete-miles-de-empleos-y-facilidades-para-endeudarse/>

<http://radioprogreso.net/index.php/comunicaciones/opinion/item/4205-herminio-deras-35-a-%C3%B1os-y-los-muros-que-no-lo-olvidan>

31/01/18

Berta - Trial; (Re)Elections - Repression, Churches, JOH, TSE, US, Dialogue, History; Bajo Aguán; Hydroelectricity; MACCIH; TSC; Corruption; Secrecy Law; Debt; Conatel; Corrigendum; and a Walk in the Park

COPINH informs about Monday's trial in the murder case of Berta. They lament the timid role of the MP and the use of armed soldiers in the court room to intimidate those accompanying the trial.

<https://copinhonduras.blogspot.ch/2018/01/30-de-enero-copinh-informa-sobre.html>

A few days ago, the Coalition against Impunity presented their latest report on the human rights violations in the post-electoral context. The report is now available.

The Human Rights Roundtable denounces in a new press release the ongoing repression by the JOH regime and demands at the same time that the international community stops collaborating with the regime until the post-electoral human rights violations have been investigated and prosecuted.

Giorgio Trucchi summarizes last months' events as a "terrible human rights crisis".

CONADEH also published a new report, its fourth, on the post-electoral crisis.

https://honduras-forum.ch/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/180123_Informe-Monitoreo-de-Violaciones-a-DDHH-en-Honduras-coyuntura-de-fraude-electoral-CCI.pdf

<http://derechosdelamujer.org/honduras-represion-y-ataques-a-defensoras-y-defensores/>

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/190706>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/conadeh-pide-a-entes-de-seguridad-y-sociedad-respetar-labor-de-periodistas-en-manifestaciones.html>

Criterio highlights the role of the institutionalized religions in the repression of the Honduran people.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/30/policia-hondurena-pasa-reprimir-las-calles-venerar-la-virgen-suyapa/>

Radio Progreso explains how JOH formed the Honduran state and its political system to his liking: "In these times of diplomatic hypocrisy and a general upturn of authoritarianism, it is quite easy for aspiring dictators to set up a regime with all the necessary appearances of a representative democracy while in reality being an authoritative and exclusive regime.

JOH's regime offers the best example on how to set up a disguised dictatorship with some democratic formalities which now after the electoral fraud cannot be kept up anymore."

Meanwhile, Univision gives JOH an opportunity to present himself in an interview without being challenged.

<http://radioprogreso.net/index.php/comunicaciones/nuestra-palabra/item/4206-construyendo-una-dictadura-paso-a-paso-30-enero-2018>

<https://tiempo.hn/joh-univision-no-me-quieren-ver-la-presidencia-tampoco-vivo/>

The lawyer Jhoiner Fernández presented a challenge to the TSE regarding the recently elected Nationalist congressman Roy Dagoberto Cruz Pérez.

He is related to the president of the Supreme Court Rolando Argueta which should have made impossible his election in the first place as it violates the Honduran constitution.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/piden-inhabilitacion-de-diputado-por-supuesto-parentesco-con-presidente-de-la-csj.html>

Defensores en Línea reports on the protest by the US Emergency Faith Delegation outside the US embassy, in which they demanded among other things an end to military aid. The delegation has been in Honduras for almost a week and Radio Progreso published an article giving an overview of their activities. CIP Americas highlights the role of the US in the consolidation of the electoral fraud in Honduras. Vicki Cervantes, North America Coordinator for the Honduras Solidarity Network, gave an interview about the situation in Honduras.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/religiosos-estadounidenses-piden-cesar-ayuda-militar-a-honduras/>

<http://radioprogreso.hn.net/index.php/comunicaciones/noticias/item/4210-delegaci%C3%B3n-estadounidense-repudian-reelecci%C3%B3n-de-hern%C3%A1ndez-y-militarizaci%C3%B3n-en-honduras>

<https://www.americas.org/es/archives/25517>

<http://www.risingupwithsonali.com/from-honduras-to-brazil-latin-american-democracy-in-peril/>

The Citizens Platform continues to make lobbying for JOH's dialogue. Yesterday they met with UN representatives.

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/plataforma-ciudadana-se-reune-con-representante-de-la-onu-en-honduras.html>

The historian Edgar Soriano Ortiz explains what happened during the 1923 presidential elections in Honduras and draws parallels to today.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/30/las-elecciones-1923-camino-la-revuelta/>

Defensores en Línea published the press release by MARCA and the Regional Agrarian Platform of the Aguan Valley explaining their motivation for their most recent land recuperation (see yesterday). They ask the UN Human Rights Office in Honduras as well as national human rights organization to stay vigilant and accompany them.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/campesinos-toman-posesion-de-sus-tierras-en-el-bajo-aguan/>

Inhabitants of Reitoca, Francisco Morazán, protested against the installation of a hydroelectric project by the politician/businessman Jack Arevalo. The Military Police went after them with force and according to Criterio, shot at the protesters. Two of them, Miriam Sorto and Andrés Gutiérrez, were hurt and brought to the hospital in Tegucigalpa. Proceso Digital even reports of 10 hurt indigenous protesters.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/30/militares-hieren-dos-pobladores-reitoca-delito-defender-agua/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/se-reportan-al-menos-10-indigenas-heridos-en-protestas-en-reitoca.html>

The dormant Indignados movement was revived to support the MACCIH. They call for a 'anti-corruption human chain' for this Friday at 5pm. The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) demanded from Congress to derogate the impunity pact. The MP announced that it would present a constitutional challenge against the impunity pact. The bonsai parties, which first laid out clear demands for giving their support to the National Party, then ignored their own demands and supported them anyway, now also demand a derogation of the impunity pact which had been approved by the National Party congresswo/men they helped to rule Congress...

The OAS, meanwhile, nominated the former Guatemalan president Álvaro Colom to mediate to hold a dialogue with the JOH regime about the anti-corruption struggle.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/30/indignados-convocan-cadena-humana-poyo-la-macchih/>

<http://www.radiohrn.hn/l/noticias/cna-exhorta-los-diputados-derogar-reforma-que-blinda-la-corrupci%C3%B3n-e-impunidad-al-m%C3%A1s-alto>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/mp-presentara-recurso-de-inconstitucionalidad-contrareforma-a-ley-de-presupuesto.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/mp-cna-y-macchih-exigen-derogar-reforma-a-ley-de-presupuesto-cn-se-mantiene-impavido.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/partidos-minoritarios-piden-derogar-reforma-la-ley-del-presupuesto/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/proceso-electoral-2017/36-proceso-electoral/partidos-minoritarios-ratifican-apoyo-a-la-macchih-en-lucha-contrala-corrupcion.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/oea-designa-a-expresidente-alvaro-colom-para-mesa-de-dialogo-en-honduras.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/seria-brutal-tener-a-colom-en-dialogo-de-la-onu-pero-elviene-a-lo-de-la-macchih-nasralla.html>

Congress, meanwhile, handed a list of no less than 750 congresswo/men and deputy congresswo/men of the last twelve years to the Supreme Audit Court (TSC) for investigation. ConfidencialHN explains that this is part of a white-washing strategy of the impunity pact.

<https://tiempo.hn/congreso-nacional-entrega-lista-de-diputados-al-tsc-para-investigarlos/>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1147907-466/tribunal-superior-de-cuentas-crear%C3%A1-unidad-para-investigar-a-m%C3%A1s-de-750>

<http://confidencialhn.com/2018/01/30/gira-judicial-diputados-llegan-al-tsc-a-justificar-pacto-de-impunidad1/>

Inhabitants of Wampusirpi, Gracias a Dios, denounce that their former mayor stole 42 million Lempiras but the MP has so far looked the other way.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/30/exalcalde-wampusirpi-despilfarro-l-42-millones-vista-paciencia-autoridades-hondurenas/>

Ebal Díaz, the secretary of the Council of Ministers, announced that they sent a bill to Congress to have the Secrecy Law reformed.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/ejecutivo-envio-al-cn-iniciativa-para-reformar-ley-de-secretos-ebal-diaz.html>

<http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1147912-466/poder-ejecutivo-pide-al-congreso-nacional-reformar-ley-de-secretividad>

Congress just allowed the Finance Secretariat to further increase Honduras' debt level.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/01/30/congreso-nacional-autoriza-finanzas-deuda-externa-8400-millones-lempiras/>

Conatel got a new leadership. This is worth mentioning as JOH has made use in the past of Conatel to go after unwelcome critics on radio and TV programs.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/juramentados-nuevos-comisionados-de-conatel.html>

According to the National Agriculture University (UNA), the young man

murdered on Monday, Eduin Esmelin Munguía Arias, was not a UNA student.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/01/30/joven-ultimado-no-estudiante-la-una/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFYcTAgE-AQ>