

01/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Mining - Guapinol; Penitentiary System; Journalists - Social Security; HR; Corruption - CNA; Electoral Reforms; Coffee; Poverty; National Police; and a Prison Beauty Contestant...

The Expert Observation Mission of the Berta Cáceres Case, consisting of seven Honduran, regional and international human rights organizations, presented their preliminary findings for the time period of September 10-25. There is also an executive summary (see second link).

<https://observacioncalificadabertacaceres.blogspot.com/2018/10/observaciones-preliminares.html>

<https://observacioncalificadabertacaceres.blogspot.com/2018/10/resumen-ejecutivo-observaciones.html>

Radio Progreso portrays the peaceful resistance camp against a mining project in Guapinol near Tocoa, Colón as an example of territorial sovereignty. They have set up camp sixty days ago and one of its members, Reynaldo Domínguez, welcomes that the young also participate.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/campamento-guapinol-ejemplo-de-soberania-territorial/>

After the newest prison riots with two inmates dead and several wounded (see yesterday), Conaprev denounces that inmates are not separated by certain categories which causes a lot of unrest.

Omar Rivera asks for international support to solve the crisis in Honduras' penitentiary system.

The deputy director of the National Penitentiary Institute (INP), meanwhile, told the media that such fights inside prisons are normal...

The human rights organization CODEH demands an intervention of the INP.

<https://confidencialhn.com/falta-de-segregacion-de-reos-en-la-tolva-provoco-reyerta-conaprev/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/01/honduras-dos-muertos-y-siete-heridos-deja-supuesto-pleito-entre-maras-en-carcel-de-maxima-seguridad/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/depurador-policial-pide-a-joh-que-pida-ayuda-internacional-para-frenar-crisis-carcelaria/>

<https://tiempo.hn/jorge-calix-califica-de-mentiroso-y-cinico-a-luis-zelaya-por-negar-reuniones-con-pn/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/rina-en-la-tolva-es-normal-segun-el-inp-codeh-pide-intervencion-al-sistema.html>

Thelma Mejía, journalist and university teacher for upcoming journalists, denounces that the initial enthusiasm of incoming students soon fades away when they become aware of the obstacles they will face put in place by the JOH regime.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2295-segun-thelma-mejia-la-divulgacion-de-la-narrativa-oficialista-tiene-cabida-por-el-periodismo-fuentero>

Criterio spoke with the 84 old journalist Mario Hernán Ramírez about the problems of the Social Security Institute for Journalists (IPP) created by its board members. Ramírez lost hope that they will help him and he concludes the interview: "I was born in poverty, lived in poverty and I will die in poverty."

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/01/insensibles-directivos-de-periodistas-ante-calamidad-de-jubilados/>

Honduras' Human Rights Ombudsman once more has shown on which side he stands by agreeing with JOH that private actors should also be labeled human rights violators. This demand by JOH at last week's UN General Assembly caused some stir and it is widely seen as an attempt to divert attention away from state security forces.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ombudsman-de-acuerdo-con-hernandez-para-que-el-crimen-sea-calificado-como-violador-de-ddhh/>

After some uncertainty, the director of the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), Gabriella Castellanos, was confirmed in her post. In an interview with Proceso Digital, she stressed the importance of the MACCIH in Honduras.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1221272-410/no-habra-cambios-cna-confirma-asamblea-gabriela-castellanos>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/hondurenos-no-hemos-podido-contra-la-corrupcion-la-maccih-es-necesaria-segun-gabriela-castellanos.html>

Sociologist and political analyst Víctor Meza criticizes the proposed intervention of the National Registry of Person (RNP). He agrees that change is needed, but believes that the proposed approach will not benefit Honduras as a whole.

<https://confidencialhn.com/senalan-falta-de-credibilidad-en-comision-tripartita-que-intervendra-el-rnp/>

Honduras exported 9.4 million bags of coffee (46kg each) between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018. This is a bit less than last year and to a cheaper price, which let JOH denounce cheap coffee prices at the UN General Assembly last week.

<http://elpulso.hn/honduras-exporto-94-millones-de-sacos-de-cafe-este-ano/>

With the beginning of the week of holiday 'semana morazánica', both fuel and energy prices rise once more. In Juticalpa, inhabitants announced a protest march against the Energy Company Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/01/de-vacaciones-con-las-bolsas-vacias-y-con-los-combustibles-y-la-energia-mas-cara/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/01/juticalpenses-convocan-a-gran-movilizacion-contra-empresa-energia-honduras/>

The lawyer and legal representative of purged members of the police forces, Rosmel Lanza, denounces that the purging committee acted arbitrarily against some 1000 former members and that they were separated without due cause nor process.

<https://confidencialhn.com/junta-depuradora-actuo-de-forma-arbitraria-al-separar-policias/>

...with the former First Lady present as an inmate.

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-privadas-de-libertad-escogen-a-su-reina-de-belleza/>

02/10/18

Honduras Daily: Mining - Guapinol; Indigenous Peoples; Forests; Journalists; Arms Deal; Liberal Party - RNP; IMF; Poverty; and an Ongoing Prison Crisis

OFRANEH published an article on the peaceful resistance against a mining project in Guapinol focusing on the object of the mining efforts, iron oxide, "one of the most destructive [forms of mining] and with only a minimal profit margin due to its ridiculous [low] price on the international market".

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/10/02/resistencia-en-guapinol-y-explotacion-de-oxido-de-hierro-en-areas-protegidas/>

Radio Progreso highlights the importance of a proposal for auto-determination by Honduras' indigenous peoples coming directly from

them in opposition to State efforts to water it down.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/una-propuesta-para-la-autodeterminacion-de-los-pueblos-indigenas-y-garifuna/>

In its bi-monthly newsletter, the Center for Environmental Right Honduras denounces an attempt to reform the forest law which would further shrink its potential to protect Honduras' forests from over-exploitation.

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/d02dd2498a2fb3cd56bd850c3/files/e5babf44-1807-4ff4-b80b-dab7ddc66dca/Gaceta_Verde_Mayo_Junio_68.pdf

The people of Juticalpa will take to the street today to protest against the Energy Company Honduras (EEH) (See yesterday). A local radio station reported on the planned protest and as a reaction, the EEH wrote a threatening letter to its owner.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/02/eeh-amenaza-medio-de-comunicacion-por-invitar-a-manifestacion-en-su-contra/>

Criterion found in the analysis of security spending by FOSDEH that the JOH regime spent at least 450 million Lempiras on arms sales in 2017.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/02/gobierno-de-honduras-gasto-en-2017-mas-de-l-450-millones-en-importacion-de-armas-y-municiones/>

The Disciplinary Commission of the Liberal Party decided against the expulsion of the 13 congresswo/men who assisted the second inauguration of JOH. They have not decided yet on the seventeen congresswo/men who recently approved the intervention of the National Persons Registry (RNP). Young Liberal Party leaders now try to turn the table and demand the expulsion of Luis Zelaya.

Efraín Bu Figueroa reflects on past expulsions at the Liberal Party and their (non) effectiveness.

Regarding the RNP intervention, Luis Zelaya denounced in a video message yesterday that the intervention committee would not investigate the electoral fraud.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/02/comision-disciplinaria-del-partido-liberal-determina-no-expulsar-a-diputados-que-asistieron-a-toma-de-posesion-de-hernandez/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1221489-410/honduras-liberales-diputados-joh-expulsion>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/02/piden-expulsion-de-luis-zelaya-del-partido-liberal/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/02/expulsiones-2/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2992-interventora-de-rnp-no-investigara-indicios-de-fraude-electoral-asegura-luis-zelaya>

The Finance Secretary Rocío Tábor announced that tax rises won't be on the agenda in new talks with the IMF.

<https://confidencialhn.com/funcionaria-de-finanzas-niega-aumento-de-impuestos-en-negociacion-con-fmi/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/autoridades-hondurenas-descartan-mas-impuestos-en-nueva-negociacion-con-el-fmi.html>

Pinu congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez denounces the price rise for LPG gas and how it disproportionately affects poor women and small-scale merchants. She also sees in it a way to pressure Honduran people to change to electricity, a market that has been privatized.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/aumento-al-lpg-es-un-lenazo-inmisericorde-que-golpea-a-mujeres-emprendedoras-senala-doris-gutierrez.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/denuncian-persistencia-de-tuberculosis-en-carceles-hondurenas/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/sorpresivos-traslados-de-reos-realiza-sistema-penitenciario-y-fusina/>

03/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Commemoration; Political Prisoners; Women's Rights; Penitentiary System - Drug Trafficking; Corruption - IHSS; Congress - RNP; Public Health; Fiscal Policy; Dialogue; Militarization; Migration; and an Economic Crisis

On October 12, a festival takes place at UNAH to commemorate Berta called "Voices for Berta".

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/festival-voces-para-berta/>

The Inter-American Human Rights Commission (IACHR) is currently conducting its 169th period of hearings. One hearing was granted to CEJIL and the Coalition against Impunity on the topic of the political prisoners in Honduras.

Commissioner Joel Hernández said that they will closely monitor the situation in Honduras.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2297-este-miercoles-audiencia-en-la-cidh-sobre-personas-criminalizadas-y-privadas-de-libertad-en-el-contexto-postelectoral>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/03/cidh-exhorta-al-estado-de-honduras-respetar-el-principio-de-legalidad-de-los-presos-politicos/>

<https://twitter.com/CIDH/status/1047516435071868933>

Expediente Público started a three-part series on "the risk of being a woman in Honduras".

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/comunidad/106-el-riesgo-de-ser-mujer-en-honduras>

Expediente Público looks at one aspect of the crisis of the Honduran penitentiary system, its overpopulation - the 28 prisons are 400% overpopulated - and zooms in on one group of inmates, small-scale drug vendors. According to Expediente Público, the arrests increased by 222% since 2010, but the effect is rather superficial (e.g. the presentation of the arrested men and the seized goods in press photos), while drug trafficking constantly reorganizes itself and "homicides linked to it don't stop".

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/seguridad-y-violencia/107-el-narcomenudeo-y-su-capacidad-de-reorganizacion>

A member of the Armed Forces faces a prison sentence for organizing military clothing to gang members.

<https://tiempo.hn/sargento-mayor-prision-pandilla-18/>

Carlos Zelaya, the brother of the former IHSS director Mario Zelaya, was sentenced to 3 years and 10 months in prison in the US for money laundering.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/hermano-de-mario-zelaya-condenado-a-casi-4-anos-de-prision-en-eeuu-por-lavado.html>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/minisitios/hondurenosenelmundo/1221763-471/por-lavado-de-activos-condenan-al-hermano-de-mario-zelaya-en-estados>

In her newest edition of the Parliamentary Chronicles, Nincy Perdomo presents how the intervention of the National Persons Registry (RNP) came about.

The intervention committee will present a tender worth \$50 million for the elaboration of a new identity card.

The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) announced that it will monitor this process.

<http://elpulso.hn/cp-2527-09-2018/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/junta-interventora-del-rnp-licitara-150-millones-para-elaboracion-de-nueva-tarjeta-de-identidad.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/el-cna-esta-vigilante-al-proceso-sobre-nueva-tarjeta-de-identidad-dice-pastor-canales.html>

Employees of the University Hospital are discussing possible protest actions for the coming week. They have been unsuccessfully demanding a pay rise for two years.

<https://tiempo.hn/trabajadores-del-heu-amenazan-con-realizar-huelga-si-no-obtienen-aumento-salarial/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/trabajadores-del-heu-amenazan-con-paralizar-labores-si-no-hay-aumento-de-salario/>

Radio HRN reports that Honduras will lose more than 181 billion Lempiras due to tax exemptions in the coming four years.

<http://radiohrn.hn/2018/10/03/entre-2019-y-2022-mas-de-181000-millones-perdida-estado-por-exoneraciones/>

There wasn't much news about the political dialogue these last few days. Yesterday, UN representative Igor Garafulic reappeared in the media to announce that the dialogue has arrived at its most difficult point and that the discussions will continue for another month.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2998-le-queda-un-mes-al-dialogo-nacional-afirma-igor-garafulic>

The Honduran Armed Forces celebrate the Day of the Soldier.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ffaa-celebran-dia-del-soldado-coronando-estatuas-de-francisco-morazan1/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/03/ffaa-nuestra-unica-mision-es-ver-a-una-honduras-mejor/>

By the end of September, the number of deported Hondurans has increased by 61.4% compared to 2017.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/mas-de-57-mil-hondurenos-deportados-este-ano-un-61-4-mas-que-en-2017.html>

On the anniversary of Francisco Morazán, a group of Honduran intellectuals and scholars came together to publish a joint statement on the failed neoliberal policies in Honduras.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/politica-neoliberal-de-empleo-un-fracaso/>

04/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta; IACHR - Political Prisoners, Forced Displacement; EEH - Repression; Fire Arms; Penitentiary System; Public Health - Privatization; Social Security; and Decreasing Labor Rights

COPINH published a short video by Berta reminding us that "life calls on us to maintain joy".

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/video-bertha-la-vida-nos-llama-a-mantener-la-alegria/>

ConexiHon reports on the recent hearing on the political prisoners held at the IACHR and the intent of the JOH regime to pretend that there are no political prisoners in Honduras.

In a second article, ConexiHon reports on a recent visit by C-Libre to the maximum-security prison La Tolva where the two political prisoners, Raúl Eduardo Álvarez and Edwin Roveló Espinal, are held.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/819-desconocer-existencia-de-presos-politicos-fue-la-tarea-del-estado-hondureno-ante-la-cidh>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/820-la-soledad-de-ser-presos-politico-en-honduras>

Another topic addressed during the IACHR hearings was forced displacement in Honduras and the rights of the persons suffering from it. CIPRODEH denounces that once more it became clear that the Honduran State has no intention to tackle the underlying causes of forced displacement.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/estado-de-honduras-sometido-ante-la-cidh-por-desplazamiento-forzado-y-presos-politicos/>

Radio Progreso offers an update on the recently approved Fire Arms Bill and highlights some of the challenges that remain.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/con-serios-senalamientos-congreso-hondureno-aprueba-ley-de-armas/>

Recently, the inhabitants in Choluteca take to the streets to protest against the Energy Company Honduras (EEH) every Wednesday and Saturday. This Wednesday, the police violently repressed the protesters hurting at least two children in the process. One of them had to be transferred to a hospital in Tegucigalpa. Further protests against EEH were held in Juticalpa, Olancho.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/03/policia-reprime-manifestacion-en-choluteca-dejando-ninos-heridos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/03/ni-la-lluvia-detuvo-a-los-juticalpenses-en-su-protesta-contrala-eeh/>

Another inmate escaped from a so-called maximum-security prison.

<https://confidencialhn.com/de-pelicula-se-escapa-reo-de-carcel-de-ultra-alta-seguridad-el-pozo/>

<https://tiempo.hn/de-la-carcel-de-maxima-seguridad-el-pozo-en-ilama-santa-barbara-se-fugo-un-hondureno/>

Some weeks back, the president of the Medical Association of Honduras (CMH) denounced that the JOH regime is laying the ground for privatization in the public health sector by actively causing a situation of crisis. The president of the Sitramedhys labor union denounced this as well to the public yesterday.

<https://confidencialhn.com/advierten-creacion-de-crisis-hospitalaria-para-despues-justificar-privatizacion/>

According to FOSDEH, something similar is taking place at the social security institutions, especially the funds for old age.

<https://confidencialhn.com/gobierno-ejecuta-plan-para-debilitar-entes-de-prevision/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/con-tanto-desempleo-las-leyes-laborales-no-se-cumplen-carlos-reyes/>

05/10/18

Honduras Daily: Repression; Organized Crime; Budget; US - TPS; and Heavy Rain

Pasos de Animal Grande published additional information on the police repression of a peaceful protest against the Energy Company Honduras (EEH) on Wednesday in Choluteca.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2299-a-garrotazos-gases-lacrimogenos-y-balas-se-pretende-desarticular-la-protesta-social-en-choluteca>

Regarding various Honduran news outlet, a Barrio 18 gang member worked as an operator attending 911 emergency calls.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/05/pandillero-de-la-18-atendia-llamadas-en-la-linea-911/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1222303-410/investigacion-empleado-911-pandilla-18-honduras->

Radio Progreso summarizes the analysis of FOSDEH regarding the 2019 general budget under the angle of security and defense spending, spending on public private partnerships and spending for anti-poverty measures.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/gobierno-sigue-aumentando-presupuesto-para-el-sector-defensa-y-seguridad-senala-fosdeh/>

JOH will meet US vice-president next week in a meeting with Guatemalan president Jimmy Morales and EL Salvadorian vice-president Óscar Ortiz. The US will further send Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, and Secretary of National Security, Kirstjen Nielsen, to attend the meeting.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1222297-466/juan-orlando-hernandez-se-reunira-con-mike-pence-la-prxima-semana>

A US judge in San Francisco admitted a legal challenge against the revocation of the Temporary Protection Status of citizens of four countries, Honduras not included.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/05/juez-federal-dejo-fuera-a-honduras-sobre-bloqueo-de-cancelacion-del-tps/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/2999-derrumbes-e-inundaciones-en-caotico-feriado-morazanico-de-hondurenos>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3000-elevan-alerta-ante-depresion-tropical-que-acecha-a-honduras>

06/10/18

Honduras Daily: Mining - Los Pinares; and Honduras under Water

COFADEH denounces that 18 local human rights defenders of Guapinol, Colón, face arrest warrants. They also warn about a possible eviction of the peaceful resistance camp against a mining project by Inversiones Los Pinares.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/18-lideres-de-guapinol-con-ordenes-de-captura/>

The heavy rainfalls in Honduras increased and Copeco rose the warning level from yellow to red for three departments.

The rains led to already two deaths and three disappeared.

UNAH even suspended the classes for tomorrow.

ContraCorriente published a short article accompanied by impressive photographs on how "Tegucigalpa collapses faced by heavy rain".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/06/lluvias-dejan-un-muerto-en-honduras-gobierno-declara-alerta-roja-en-tres-departamentos/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1222532-466/unos-30-mil%C3%ADmetros-de-lluvia-se-esperan-para-este-domingo-en-honduras>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1222539-466/unas-45-mil-familias-est%C3%A1n-bajo-amenaza-por-las-inundaciones-tras-lluvias>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/06/unah-suspende-clases-el-lunes-por-lluvias/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/10/06/tegucigalpa-colapsa-ante-las-lluvias/>

07/10/18

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Organized Crime - Human Rights; Rains; and Climate Change and the Honduran Budget

Amnesty International published a short overview of all the state protection mechanisms in the Americas. Pasos de Animal Grande summarized the document focusing on the Honduran example.

<https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/AMR0189122018SPANISH.PDF>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2300-amnistia-internacional-publica-estudio-sobre-la-situacion-de-los-mecanismos-de-proteccion-para-defensores-y-defensoras-de-ddhh>

JOH recently attempted at the UN General Assembly to divert attention away from his regime's human rights violations by demanding that organized crime structures (gangs and drug trafficking) are to be considered the main human rights violators. To some extent, the UN already recognizes organized crime as a source of human rights violations. El Púlsó found language reflecting this in a recent report by a special rapporteur after a visit to El Salvador.

<http://elpulso.hn/relatoria-especial-de-naciones-unidas-reconoce-que-maras-y-pandillas-son-violadores-de-dd-hh/>

<https://www.ohchr.org/SP/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22634&LangID=S>

The death toll due to the heavy rains rose to 6 in Honduras and 12 across Central America.

<https://confidencialhn.com/hasta-el-momento-se-reportan-6-muertes-y-7-mil-damnificados-por-lluvias/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/mundo/1222671-410/al-menos-12-muertos-miles-afectados-lluvias-centroamerica-rio-choluteca-honduras>

FOSDEH denounces that the JOH regime has not included funds for climate change adaptation and mitigation in the new General Budget for 2019.

<https://tiempo.hn/fosdeh-honduras-inversiones-efectos-cambio-climatico/>

08/10/18

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Penitentiary System; Forensic Medicine; Rains; RNP; and Old Age in Honduras

On Saturday, it was made public that the JOH regime ordered the arrest of 18 human rights defenders in Guapinol, Colón, criminalizing their peaceful resistance to a mining project by Inversiones Los Pinares, a company which belongs to Lenir Pérez. Radio Progreso highlights an important detail of these arrest warrants. They were emitted by a court with national jurisdiction which had initially been created to fight

organized crime. These courts work together with Fusina and rely heavily on the Armed Forces for detentions and investigations. The Coalition against Impunity condemns this new level of criminalization.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/estado-de-honduras-pretende-juzgar-a-ambientalistas-como-narcotraficantes/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2301-coalicion-contra-la-impunidad-estado-coloca-en-la-categoria-de-los-criminales-mas-peligrosos-a-los-defensores-y-defensoras-de-guapinol>

The crisis in Honduras' penitentiary system continues. Yesterday, two more inmates died in the so-called maximum security prison El Pozo. According to media reports, they were stabbed to death. The same day, eleven alleged gang members fled from the youth detention center Renaciendo.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/08/dos-privados-de-libertad-mueren-de-manera-violenta-en-carcel-de-maxima-seguridad-en-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-asesinan-a-dos-reos-en-la-carcel-de-ultra-alta-seguridad-de-el-pozo/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1222805-466/dos-muertos-en-amotinamiento-en-c%C3%A1rcel-el-pozo-en-ilama-santa-b%C3%A1rbara>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/08/honduras-se-fugan-once-supuestos-pandilleros-de-la-18-del-centro-renaciendo/>

The director of Forensic Medicine, Julissa Villanueva, anew denounces the lack of support she gets from the illegally reelected Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla.

<https://confidencialhn.com/jefa-forense-acusa-al-fiscal-general-chinchilla-de-no-darle-apoyo-por-denunciar-irregularidades/>

Radio Progreso reports on how the recent heavy rainfalls highlighted the vulnerability of Honduras to natural events. ConfidencialHN criticizes that Honduras did not learn its lessons from Hurricane Mitch 20 years ago. The MiAmbiente secretary José Galdames asked for international support.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/lluvias-desnudan-realidad-de-vulnerabilidad-de-honduras/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3004-damnificados-en-sur-de-honduras-siguen-sin-poder-retornar-a-sus-casas>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-no-aprendio-lecciones-que-dejo-el-mitch-gobierno-priorizo-vacaciones-que-prevencion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/solicitan-a-cooperantes-internacionales-fondos-para-atender-emergencias-por-lluvias/>

The intervention committee of the National Person's Registry (RNP) started its work. They announced to seek for the new director and secretary of the RNP by a public contest.

<https://confidencialhn.com/interventores-abriran-concurso-para-contratar-secretario-y-gerente-del-rnp/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1223018-466/con-concursos-comienza-despolitizaci%C3%B3n-en-el-registro-nacional-de-las-personas>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/a-nuestros-viejos-08-octubre-2018/>

09/10/18

Honduras Daily: HR Situation; HRDs - Kidnapping, Attack, Award; Mining - Los Pinares; Women's Rights; Corruption - National Police, de Rosa; Public Health; Rains - Agriculture; National Police; Libre; National Dialogue - Political Prisoners; and Frozen Fish Money

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

foro_honduras_suiza@riseup.net

http://honduras-forum.ch/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/1809_AnotherMonthInHonduras.pdf

Yesterday afternoon, MADJ sent out an alert that a HRD doing voluntary work for them, Ians River, had been kidnapped in Tela. According to the Honduran press, police agents found and rescued him in El Progreso.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/09/secuestran-a-defensor-de-derechos-humanos-del-madj/>

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1049849859208036353>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/rescatan-a-defensor-de-ddhh-y-dirigente-de-libre-que-habia-sido-privado-de-libertad-en-el-progreso.html>

Reporteros de Investigación denounces that two young members of MILPAH were attacked on the way to a meeting of a community radio station. Raúl Hernández Hernández and Santos Manuel Hernández Lazo were attacked with a knife and both of them were hospitalized.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/10/09/hieren-a-indigenas-de-milpah-y-secuestran-a-integrante-del-madj/>

OACNUDH congratulates HRD Padre Melo for winning the Champion for Justice Award by the US NGO CARECEN. The award ceremony takes place tomorrow.

<https://twitter.com/ONUDDHH/status/1049775200781430784>

<http://www.departamento19.hn/index.php/nuestragente/cincoestrellas/56650-el-hondureno-padre-melo-recibira-premio-campeon-de-la-justicia.html>

COPA emitted a press release denouncing the criminalization of 18 HRDs in Guapinol who peacefully protest against the mining company Inversiones Los Pinares belonging to Lenir Pérez. COPA further denounces a orchestrated defamation campaign by the JOH regime and the company against the local community and the human rights organizations accompanying them.

In the newest plot twist, the mining company sought out the help of the UN to mediate with "the people obstructing development". Less than a month ago, private security guards employed by the mine shot at the peaceful protesters and now they present themselves as the victims.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/autoridades-locales-gubernamentales-y-mineras-criminalizan-y-difaman-a-lideres-y-organizaciones-de-derechos-humanos-del-bajo-aguan/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/habitantes-de-colon-piden-a-onu-dialogar-con-opositores-de-proyectos-mineros/>

Expediente Público published part two of its three-part series on the risks of being a woman in Honduras.

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/derechos-humanos/108-el-riesgo-de-ser-mujer-en-honduras-2-de-3>

The MP went after an alleged corrupt police sub-commissioner, Lorgio Oquelí Mejía Tinoco. They seized 31 goods and properties from him and his family. A former deputy commissioner, José Elías Bustillo Carías, was also arrested.

According to ConfidencialHN, two former police officials were arrested, the aforementioned Bustillo Carías and Miladis Davila.

Security minister Julián Pacheco appeared before the media to confirm the arrest and the active role of Mejía Tinoco in the police force.

In one of the seized properties of Mejía Tinoco, the MP found a great quantity of pharmaceuticals.

Apparently some of the arrested police officials had previously been certified by the purging committee.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/09/mp-asegura-31-bienes-a-comisionado-de-policia-lorgio-oqueli-mejia-tinoco-y-capturan-otro-oficial/>

<https://tiempo.hn/detienen-al-policia-oqueli-mejia-ayer-se-presento-a-la-fiscalia-pero-no-lo-capturaron/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/arrestan-a-exoficiales-de-la-policia-hondurena-acusados-por-corrupcion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/jefe-de-seguridad-confirma-que-oficial-de-policia-acusado-por-corrupcion-esta-activo-en-la-fuerza-publica/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/hallan-medicamentos-en-vivienda-de-oficial-de-policia-acusado-por-corrupcion-y-lavado/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/depuradores-piden-suspension-de-oficial-que-ellos-mismos-certificaron/>

Once more a legal challenge by the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo failed and she has to remain in pre-trial custody.

<https://confidencialhn.com/deniegan-recurso-a-favor-de-ex-primera-dama-de-honduras-rosa-de-lobo/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1223348-466/rosa-elena-lobo-corte-nuevo-reves-judicial-a-la-ex-primera-dama>

Medical staff at the Mario Catarino Rivas hospital in San Pedro Sula started strike actions yesterday after the JOH regime continued to fail paying them outstanding wages.

The Medical Association Honduras (CMH) presented a legal challenge against the intervention committee for the health sector presented last month by JOH because its members have conflicts of interest.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3005-personal-de-operaciones-suspende-cirugias-publicas-por-impago-de-sueldo>

<https://confidencialhn.com/colegio-medico-interpone-recurso-contrajunta-interventora-de-salud/>

The recent heavy rains have damaged the agricultural and aquaculture sector of Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/danos-dejan-lluvias-sur/>

El Pulso reports on an almost surreal encounter with a man who claims that he is a HRD but who a lot of people perceive as an infiltrator employed by the National Police Force.

<http://elpulso.hn/una-historia-de-infiltrados-y-popularidad/>

Libre will hold another session of its dialogue with the people to discuss the possibility to form an (other) opposition alliance.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3007-coalicion-opositora-tercer-plan-de-libre-para-llegar-al-poder-en-honduras>

Apparently the Liberal Party changed its mind and will return to the National Dialogue.

According to the presidential secretary Ebal Díaz, the Liberal Party asked for an amnesty for the political prisoners.

<https://tiempo.hn/liberales-continuaran-en-el-dialogo-nacional-asegura-representante-de-la-onu/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/partido-liberal-regresa-al-dialogo-a-cambio-de-amnistia-para-presos-politicos-dice-ebal-diaz.html>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1222916-410/operativo-dolares-escondidos-hielera-contrabando-atic-pescados>

10/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, Spain; HRDs - National Police; Mining - Los Pinares; IACHR - Judicial Coup; Penitentiary System; National Police; Corruption - Mayors, Public Health; Drug Trafficking; Poverty - Children; Migration; Human Trafficking; US; Rains; Electric Energy; and More Honduran Cinema

COPINH published an update on the stalled trial, highlighting which legal challenges are still open and which have so far been accepted or denied. "COPINH has taken the decision to insist that the trial be held when the basic conditions necessary are met to develop a fair trial allowing to reach the truth about the murder of Berta Cáceres. To reach this, it is going to make use of all the legal resources so that the justice system guarantees the rights of the victims, and even of the accused, with the satisfaction of the requests for information, due process and access to justice."

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/actualizacion-sobre-la-causa-berta-caceres-en-honduras/>

Pedro Arrojo, the Spanish congressman of the Podemos party, asked the Spanish government in Congress what they are doing to stop the assassinations of Honduran HRDs such as Berta Cáceres.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeZCmS2RECY>

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/en-el-parlamento-espanol-diputado-pedro-arrojo-pregunta-que-esta-haciendo-el-gobierno-en-casos-como-lo-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

COPINH denounces Tuesday's attack against HRDs at MILPAH and MADJ (see yesterday). They link it with Tuesday's arrest of police commissioner Lorgio Oquelí Mejía Tinoco, who was the head of the human rights office at the Security Secretariat (see also yesterday). According to COPINH, this reflects well the state of human rights in Honduras and the lack of defense for HRDs.

Yesterday, there was uncertainty about Mejía Tinoco's position, some media outlets wrote that he is a sub-commissioner others wrote he is a commissioner. He was a sub-commissioner when the purging committee investigated him and others in 2016. He and 66 others were certified by the commission and this year he was promoted to the position of a commissioner. ConexiHon published a great overview of the case against him. Defensores en Línea rightly asks "in whose hands is the security of HRDs?" And the failure to purge him led to renewed criticism of the purging commission.

El Heraldo reports that Mejía Tinoco is now also being investigated for links to drug traffickers.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/el-copinh-condena-el-ataque-en-contra-del-movimiento-social-y-las-organizaciones-comunitarias-e-indigenas/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/transparencia/823-por-las-calumnias-de-ayer-hoy-debe-responder-a-la-justicia-ex-jefe-policial>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/en-manos-de-quien-esta-la-seguridad-de-los-y-las-defensoras-de-ddhh/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/alertan-que-comisiones-de-depuracion-solo-sirven-para-reacomodar-criminales/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1223659-466/honduras-investigan-si-oficial-lorgio-mej%C3%ADa-tuvo-nexos-con-el-narcotr%C3%A1fico>

Radio Progreso explains the situation in Guapinol, Colón, as a response to two processes initiated with the coup d'état: i) an accumulation and concentration of political and economic power and ii) the deprivation of rights, freedoms and commons of Honduran citizens. Communities resisting these processes, such as Guapinol, are met with threats, evictions and criminalization. "Paraphrasing former prosecutor Omar Menjívar, when the exercise of this fundamental right is compared to a serious crime, it only confirms that we have entered the dark labyrinths of a fierce dictatorship which demands citizen's responsibility, as well as actions of national and international solidarity."

The Guapinol case further highlights very well the collusion of business and state actors.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/el-campamento-de-guapinol-resistencia-frente-al-despojo/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2303-expresan-lideres-de-guapinol-estado-es-complice-con-la-minera-inversiones-los-pinares-para-destruir-bienes-comunes-de-comunidades>

JOH's judicial coup in 2012 against four Supreme Court judges successfully reached the IACHR-Level. The IACHR accepted the legal challenge of the four judges. Their destitution was linked to their dismissal of a bill promoted by the then president of Congress JOH in favor of Charter Cities (which now are called ZEDEs). The only judge that was not dismissed was Óscar Chinchilla, who was later made Attorney General by JOH and who was illegally reelected in that position last this year.

<http://elpulso.hn/cidh-acepta-denuncia-de-magistrados-destituidos-de-la-sala-constitucional/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/10/cidh-acepta-denuncia-de-magistrados-destituidos-por-declarar-inconstitucional-ley-especial-de-depuracion-policia/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/cidh-admite-recurso-presentado-por-exmagistrados-de-la-sala-constitucional-despedidos-el-2012.html>

El Pulso spoke with Alba de Mejía, the director of CPTRT, on the crisis of Honduras' penitentiary system. She concludes that a politic of repression and incarceration will lead to violence.

<http://elpulso.hn/los-civiles-cometen-los-mas-oprobiosos-crimenes-pero-no-están-tipificados-como-violacion-a-los-derechos-humanos-alba-mejia/>

ConfidencialHN published additional information and the two police agents and the police official arrested on Tuesday (see yesterday).

<https://confidencialhn.com/mandan-a-la-carcel-a-policias-detenido-por-asociacion-ilicita-y-recepcion-de-sobornos/>

The mayor of Puerto Cortés is accused of corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/denuncian-criminalmente-al-alcalde-de-puerto-cortes-por-corrupcion-y-desobediencia/>

According to the director of the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), Gabriela Castellanos, some 50% of the health budget is lost due to corruption.

<https://tiempo.hn/redes-corrupcion/>

The former president Porfirio "Pepe" Lobo appeared in a TV program to discuss organized crime, Los Cachiros and his son Fabio Lobo who was sentenced to prison last year in the US.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/antes-del-golpe-ya-estaba-creada-empresa-de-los-cachiros-que-hizo-negocios-con-el-estado-expresidente-lobo.html>

According to a new UNICEF report presented on Tuesday, three out of five Honduran children are poor and one out of four lives in extreme poverty.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/piden-mas-esfuerzos-ante-pobreza-que-afecta-a-3-de-cada-5-ninos-en-honduras.html>

"On the occasion of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan's trip to Central America last week, the undersigned organizations express grave concern over comments made by the Commissioner that completely disregard violence as a major push factor in driving forced migration from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, and as a reason to seek international protection. While acute poverty is also a significant concern in the Northern Triangle of Central America, it is inaccurate and dangerous to ignore the violence forcing so many to leave behind their homes in search of safety."

http://lawg.org/storage/documents/10.9.18_Civil_Society_Statement_on_CBP_Commissioner_McAleenans_Statements_on_Drivers_of_CentAm_Migration.pdf

The coordinator in Honduras of the Pastoral Group on Human Mobility, Lidia Mara Silva, demands stringent framework against human trafficking which corresponds to the Honduran reality.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3009-legislacion-hondurena-no-responde-a-realidad-migratoria-y-trata-de-personas>

The US and Mexico co-hosts a second edition of the Prosperity and Security Conference in Central America taking place today and tomorrow.

<https://hn.usembassy.gov/second-prosperity-security-conference/>

The heavy rain falls led to at least eight deaths in Honduras. ConexiHon spoke with various HRDs highlighting the failures by the JOH regime in tackling Honduras' weakness to weather events.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/10/al-menos-ocho-muertos-dejan-lluvias-en-honduras/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/mirada-al-sur/825-escasa-inversion-para-mitigacion-en-riesgos-hace-colapsar-la-zona-sur>

JOH once more announced an overhaul of the electric energy system. At the same time, Finance Secretary Rocío Tábora announced the next increase in energy prices.

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-anuncia-refundacion-del-sistema-electrico-hondureno-cueste-lo-que-cueste/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/presidente-hernandez-anuncia-la-renovacion-del-sistema-electrico-del-pais.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/aunque-viene-incremento-a-energia-hondurenos-accederan-a-bono-por-bajo-consumo-finanzas/>

<http://elpulso.hn/presidente-hernandez-pide-al-cn-de-tramite-a-la-ley-decine/>

11/10/18

Honduras Daily: Mining - Guapinol; MADJ; Indigenous Peoples; Berta - Commemoration; HRDs; Bajo Aguán; LGBTI; MACCIH; Children's Rights; Economy; Electric Energy; Education; US; National Police; and New License Plates

COFADEH launched an urgent action in support of the peaceful resistance in Guapinol against the mining project by Inversiones Los Pinares. The same day, the Episcopal Conference of the Catholic Church in Honduras published a statement the "irrational exploitation of natural resources" leading to environmental conflicts. The statement mentions also the situation in Guapinol.

See Attachment

<https://confidencialhn.com/conferencia-episcopal-hondurena-da-espaldarazo-a-fiscalia-cna-y-maccih-en-lucha-contra-corrupcion/>

<https://tiempo.hn/conferencia-episcopal-pide-a-los-politicos-que-busquen-la-unidad-y-no-el-conflicto/>

The 17-year old member of MADJ, Fredy Ariel Díaz Molina, was arrested yesterday morning by the police. Fredy Ariel is supposed to benefit from special protection measures granted by the IACHR. He is part of a local peaceful resistance camp against in Pajuiles against the hydroelectric project by HIDROCEP. His arrest caused grave concerns, even more as the police initially claimed that they had not arrested him and he was unaccounted for for various hours. After more than four hours the authorities "found" him in a prison cell in Tela. He was arrested for "a lack of respect for authorities".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/11/honduras-policia-detiene-menor-de-edad-del-madj-que-goza-de-medidas-cautelares-de-la-cidh/>

Honduras' indigenous peoples call for a protest today at 10.00am in front of the MP.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHONDURAS/status/1050530280384188416>

On this occasion, COPINH will also hold a press conference. Later, at 1pm, a festival commemorating Berta will take place at the UNAH.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/12-de-octubre-dia-de-resistencia-festival-voces-para-berta/>

Bernardino Pérez is a HRD at the Red-Lempira and he should benefit from the protection mechanism. In his case this means that the police installed a lamp in front of his house and gave him a card identifying him as beneficiary of special protection measures.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/chabacanada-asi-ve-la-policia-las-medidas-de-seguridad-para-defensores-de-ddhh/>

El Tiempo reports on the assassination of the campesino leader Sixto Manuel Martínez Espinoza in the Bajo Aguán.

<https://tiempo.hn/campesino-en-el-aguan/>

The Evangelical Confraternity and JOH publicly oppose same-sex marriage.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/confraternidad-evangelica-se-opone-a-eventual-fallo-favorable-sobre-matrimonios-del-mismo-sexo.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/no-estoy-de-acuerdo-con-el-matrimonio-de-personas-del-mismo-sexo-presidente-hernandez.html>

The MACCIH held a meeting with the MP to support the implementation of complaints system for corruption.

https://twitter.com/OEA_MACCIH/status/1050523728982016000

On the International Day of the Girl Child, Plan International Honduras organized a public forum to discuss the challenges of young girls in Honduras with a special focus on migration.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3012-plan-internacional-respalda-entrar-en-accion-por-ninez-hondurena>

<https://confidencialhn.com/fallidas-politicas-gubernamentales-promueven-la-migracion-de-menores/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/sin-voluntad-politica-no-mejorara-la-realidad-de-la-ninez-hondurena-wilmer-vasquez/>

Javier Suazo highlights the limits of the neoliberal development model promoted by the JOH regime in Honduras.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/195859>

Energy prices rise by 18% for residents and 15% for commercial activities this month.

On Wednesday, JOH announced an overhaul of the electric energy system (see yesterday). The US chargé d'affaires praises this announcement. According to the head of the ENEE, his company will disappear by January 1 and three companies will take over for the generating, transmission and distribution of the electric energy. He claims that this does not mean privatization.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/11/tarifazo-de-18-asesta-eeh-a-los-hondurenos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/hasta-fulton-cebra-la-reforma-energetica-anunciada-por-el-gobierno/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/anuncian-cierre-de-la-enee-y-creacion-de-tres-nuevas-empresas/>

Even further back, JOH announced a similar overhaul for the education system. Roberto Tróchez, the head of the teacher's union Colprosumah, comments on the promised reform and its funding mechanism.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fondos-del-tason-ayudarian-a-mejorar-infraestructura-escolar/>

The Prosperity and Security Conference took place yesterday and the Honduran media outlets report on the statements by US vice-president Mike Pence, e.g. praising the illegal reelection of Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla.

Pence also mentions the US' growing concern of diplomatic ties between China and Central American countries while cutting the ties with Taiwan. The sixth link leads to the statements made by the Honduran and Guatemalan president as well as the El Salvadorian vice-president.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1223776-466/estados-unidos-habla-sobre-avances-de-seguridad-en-honduras>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/vicepresidente-pence-eleccion-de-fiscal-chinchilla-es-un-paso-para-erradicar-corrupcion-y-derrotar-redes-criminales.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/11/migracion-de-hondurenos-hacia-ee-uu-crecio-en-un-61-en-el-ultimo-ano-segun-mike-pence/>

<https://www.france24.com/en/20181011-pence-warns-central-american-leaders-china-ties>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/11/fondos-del-plan-de-la-alianza-para-la-prosperidad-se-alejan-de-honduras/>

<https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2018/10/286571.htm>

El Tiempo reports that a recently arrested police official for links to Maras was also responsible for the security of the police purging committee...

Interpol is now involved in the search of the Honduran police commissioner Lorgio Oquelí Mejía (see e-mails of the last two days).

<https://tiempo.hn/sargento-pandilla-18-escoltas-depuradores/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1223976-466/remiten-a-interpol-alerta-para-capturar-a-lorgio-mej%C3%ADa>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-presentan-nuevo-sistema-de-placas-para-vehiculos-camiones-y-motocicletas/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3011-alerta-roja-lluvia-de-paquetazos-desgracian-mas-al-pueblo-hondureno>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1223871-410/15-claves-hondurenos-deben-saber-sobre-nuevas-placas>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1223952-466/cobro-por-placas-dejar%C3%A1-al-instituto-de-la-propiedad-m%C3%A1s-de-l>

12/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; COPINH; HRDs; Bajo Aguán; Campesinx; Journalists; LGBTI; Mining; Migration; Corruption - Pandora, TSC; National Dialogue; License Plates; Electric Energy; Spain; and the Need for Left-Wing Anti-Corruption Politics

Berta's family and COPINH accompanied by their lawyers from MADJ filed a request with the Attorney General asking him to accuse the structure that murdered Berta Cáceres as an illicit association.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/12/familia-pide-a-fiscal-general-que-acuse-de-asociacion-ilicita-a-asesinos-de-bera-caceres/>

COPINH emitted a press release on the 526 anniversary of "resistance against the annihilation of the peoples which began with the bloody invasion of the Spanish - and others - of indigenous territories".

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/comunicado-y-video-de-la-conferencia-de-prensa-12-oct-2018/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/12/copinh-conmemora-526-anos-de-resistencia-en-defensa-de-los-bienes-comunes/>

This week, Padre Melo received the Champion for Justice Award granted by the US NGO CARECEN. He dedicates the award to "the communities in resistance", "the organizations proposing economic, political, legal and social alternatives", "the indigenous and black communities" and "the community radios".

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/6276-2/>

The Campesino Movement Gregorio Chávez and the Agrarian Platform condemn the two murders taking place in Rigores near Trujillo, Colón, informing that they were not part of their movement but rather part of a "irregular group" spreading terror in the communities.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/10/12/bajo-aguan-en-marcha-plan-para-desestabilizar-movimiento-gregorio-chavez/>

Various grassroots human rights networks condemn the violent eviction of a campesino cooperative in El Porvenir near Siguatepeque, Comayagua.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/defensores-de-ddhh-condenan-desalojo-de-campesinos-en-siguatepeque/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the journalists trying to cover the bi-weekly protests in Choluteca and who, as a consequence, suffer harassment.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2304-choluteca-es-territorio-hostil-para-la-libertad-de-expresion>

On Thursday, both JOH and the evangelical priest Alberto Solórzano publicly spoke out against same-sex marriage. Yesterday, JOH felt compelled to reiterate it and Solórzano even threatens with protests if the Constitutional Chamber speaks out in favor of it.

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-reitera-su-oposicion-al-matrimonio-igualitario-en-honduras/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/12/presidente-hernandez-no-estoy-de-acuerdo-con-el-matrimonio-de-personas-del-mismo-sexo/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/religioso-y-depurador-policial-amenaza-con-movilizar-a-sus-fieles-si-se-autoriza-el-matrimonio-igualitario/>

Thursday's statement by the Episcopal Conference of the Catholic Church against mining seems to have the JOH regime worried, how else to explain this rather shocking comparison. The Secretary of Natural Resources, José Galdámez, asked the Episcopal Conference to abstain from generalizations against the mining industry, comparing it with a claim that all members of the Church are pedophiles...

<https://confidencialhn.com/funcionario-ambiental-nego-que-mineras-no-produzcan-desarrollo-ni-beneficios-para-honduras/>

The US Chargé d'Affaires and the US embassy spread a message of the US vice-president on social media: don't migrate to the US. Once more, this completely ignores the Honduran reality which will continue to push people to migrate, such as the 500 who gathered yesterday in San Pedro Sula to start traveling north.

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1050804900706308097>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/12/mas-de-500-hondurenos-inician-exodo-huyendo-de-la-violencia-en-su-pais/>

<https://tiempo.hn/por-la-inseguridad-y-la-desesperanza-manana-inicia-nueva-caravana-de-migrantes-hacia-estados-unidos/>

A judge denied to lift the arrest warrant in the Pandora corruption case against Elvin Santos Lozano. He is currently hospitalized outside the country and his legal teams claims that he would like to present himself voluntarily for questioning but only if the arrest warrant would be lifted.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3013-justicia-hondurena-no-eliminara-orden-de-captura-contra-elvin-santos-lozano>

The Supreme Audit Court (TSC) wants more power to fight corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/tsc-pide-al-parlamento-mas-potestades-para-combatir-corrupcion/>

It is still not clear if the Liberal Party will join the National Dialogue again and Nasralla announced that he will also leave if the Liberal Party returns under the leadership of Evin Santos instead of Luis Zelaya.

Congress' president Mauricio Oliva announced to travel to the US to meet with the OAS. The latter offered to help with the electoral reform.

<https://confidencialhn.com/luis-zelaya-aun-no-decide-si-seguira-o-abandonara-el-dialogo/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/nasralla-advierte-que-se-largara-si-se-suma-el-lado-oscuro-liberal-al-dialogo1/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/oliva-felicita-a-opositores-por-trabajar-para-alcanzar-reformas-en-el-rnp1/>

There is growing criticism of the new car license plates which apparently allow the JOH regime to collect 900 million Lempiras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/el-gobierno-quita-a-clase-media-el-50-por-ciento-de-su-salario/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/12/recaudan-mil-millones-por-matricula-vehicular/>

The former PAC congressman Aníbal Cálix criticizes the planned restructuring of ENEE claiming that it only benefits a small elite.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/refundacion-de-la-enee-solo-beneficia-a-pequenos-grupos-exdiputado-anibal-calix.html>

The Spanish development agency celebrates 30 years in Honduras.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/honduras-seguira-siendo-prioridad-para-espana-dice-embajador-espanol.html>

<https://jacobinmag.com/2018/10/corruption-bolsonaro-pt-populism-democracy-development>

13/10/18

Honduras Daily: LGBTI; Berta - Trial, Commemoration; IACHR; Migration; National Police; and the Story of Lee Christmas

El Pulso published an important overview of the current denigrating PR campaign by conservative and evangelical forces against same-sex marriage and the LGBTI community in Honduras.

<http://elpulso.hn/el-hambre-de-poder-del-conservadurismo-del-siglo-xxi/>

Both ConexiHon and (more surprisingly) Proceso Digital reported on the newest request filed by COPINH and Berta's family to the MP (see yesterday).

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/828-copinh-exige-al-mp-que-rompa-la-impunidad-en-la-causa-berta-caceres>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/piden-a-ministerio-publico-hondureno-resultados-sobre-asesinato-berta-caceres.html>

COPINH published photographic and video impressions from Friday's commemoration of Berta.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/fotos-y-videos-de-voces-para-berta-12-oct-18/>

Radio Progreso published a short summary of the two hearings regarding Honduras at the IACHR - one focused on internally forced displacement, the other on the political prisoners. Radio Progreso denounces that the JOH regime is not even willing to accept that there is a problem, denying the existence of both the political prisoners as well as the profound security problem.

At the same time, the state body CONADEH reports on an increase of people attended by their office for forced displacement due to violence...

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/honduras-ante-la-cidh-13-octubre-2018/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/segun-conadeh-625-personas-obligadas-a-salir-de-sus-hogares-otras-764-en-riesgo-de-desplazamiento.html>

On Friday, Criterio reported that a new caravan of migrating Hondurans is about to start its journey north. Yesterday, they took off from San Pedro Sula and the number of people grew to up to 2500 people.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/13/con-el-grito-de-alla-vamos-donald-trump-1200-hondurenos-arrancaron-hoy-la-caravana-hacia-estados-unidos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/dos-mil-500-personas-huyen-de-honduras-hacia-ee-uu-por-extrema-pobreza-y-violencia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/mexico-daria-condicion-de-refugiados-a-hondurenos-que-huyen-de-pobreza-y-violencia/>

El Heraldo reports that ATIC is searching the allegedly corrupt police official Lorgio Oquelí Mejía Tinoco with two teams. The purging committee, meanwhile, has been in place for 30 months this October. Proceso Digital shares some voices and statistics on the occasion.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1224462-466/dos-equipos-de-la-atic-buscan-a-lorgio-mej%C3%ADa>

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/depuracion-policial-cumple-30-meses-sin-prisas-pero-sin-pausas.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/lee-christmas-de-mercenario-a-jefe-de-la-policia-en-tegucigalpa/>

14/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs; Militarization; Migration; Drug Trafficking; Electoral Reforms; and Saint Romero

Almost a month ago, the trial in the murder case of Berta Cáceres and the attempted murder of Gustavo Castro started, but for only a few minutes. The Honduran judicial system failed to comply with the law and decide on legal challenges presented by COPINH and Berta's family in the following 72 hours. Now, with the main challenge against the sitting judges still unresolved - they are accused of being "partial, leaving defendants and defendants defenseless, violating due process" - a new trial date has been set for this morning at 9am.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/alerta-tribunal-convoca-a-juicio-para-el-lunes-15-oct/>

COFADEH emitted an alert denouncing the arrest of the regional secretary of the CNTC, Sebastián Reyes, in Ocotillo, Tutule, La Paz. He has suffered a criminalization process but in August, he was provisionally acquitted making his arrest just another form of intimidation and harassment.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/alerta-capturan-a-secretario-regional-de-la-cntc-la-paz/>

Defensores en Línea interviewed several civil society and social movements representatives in Honduras's south who all denounce an increasing militarization of the region.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/para-que-estan-los-militares-en-la-zona-sur-de-honduras/>

The caravan of Honduran migrants continues on its journey north. The US embassy in Honduras has already emitted its second press release on the subject, once more warning the migrants to stay put. The press release ends with this very cynical statement: "The situation in Honduras has improved markedly, and this trend will only continue if its citizens remain and invest their extraordinary potential here." Just last month the US renewed its travel warning to this "markedly improved country"...

The JOH regime insinuates that the migrants are pawns of the political opposition. This may be a reaction to an OpEd by Salvador Nasralla, presenting the caravan as a reaction to the failures of the JOH regime.

But also the head of the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), Gabriela Castellanos, tweeted that the migrants are partly motivated by the corruption reigning in Honduras. CONADEH asked the UNHCR and the Red Cross for support. The Pastoral Group on Human Mobility also asked for accompaniment and humanitarian assistance for the migrants.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/14/caravana-de-migrantes-hondurenos-avanza-firme-en-proposito/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/14/embajada-de-ee-uu-advierte-que-ellos-hacen-cumplir-sus-leyes-de-migracion/>

<https://tiempo.hn/eeuu-preocupado-por-caravana-de-migrantes-que-viaja-desde-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/14/gobierno-de-honduras-insinua-que-detras-de-la-caravana-de-migrantes-hay-intereses-politicos/>

<https://tiempo.hn/cancilleria-pide-a-politicos-no-enganar-a-hondurenos-que-van-en-caravana-migrante/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/14/la-migracion-masiva-de-hondurenos-ante-la-ingobernabilidad-y-corrupcion-en-honduras/>

<https://tiempo.hn/gabriela-castellanos-detras-de-la-caravana-de-migrantes-esta-la-caravana-de-la-corrupcion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-conadeh-pedira-a-cruz-roja-y-onu-asistencia-a-migrantes-que-huyen-hacia-ee-uu/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/pastoral-de-movilidad-aclara-no-organizan-caravana-pero-piden-migrantes-sean-asistidos.html>

In the beginning of 2018, the Honduran Delis Abner Martínez Palencia handed himself over to the US authorities. El Herald reports that in September he was sentenced to ten years in prison for drug trafficking. He was linked to the Valle Valle cartel.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1224731-466/estados-unidos-conden%C3%B3-a-diez-a%C3%B1os-de-prisi%C3%B3n-a-socio-de-los>

Congress' president Mauricio Oliva traveled to the US yesterday to sign a cooperation agreement with the OAS regarding electoral reforms.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/comision-del-cn-viajo-a-washington-para-firmar-convenio-de-apoyo-para-reformas-politicas-con-oea.html>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/14/presidente-del-cn-firmara-convenio-de-apoyo-a-reformas-politicas-con-almagro/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/nuestro-san-romero-14-septiembre-2018/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/de-la-capilla-a-la-calle-con-san-romero-a-la-defensa-del-pueblo-y-la-casa-comun/>

15/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs - Repression; Criminalization; HR; Campesinx; Migration - Caravan; Human Trafficking; Military Police - Homicide; Corruption - Police; Electoral Reforms; Liberal Party - National Dialogue; ENEE; and Hurricane JOH

The Berta Cáceres trial was once again suspended yesterday just moments after it restarted a month after its initial beginning. The legal team representing COPINH and Berta's family filed another complaint against the judges of the Appeals Court accusing them of falsifying information.

When the trial had initially been reset for yesterday, US chargé d'affaires Heide Fulton and the US embassy "continue to call for free, fair, and transparent legal processes grounded in due process and respect for the rule of law" ignoring that under the current circumstances and with the open legal complaints, this would have been an impossibility.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/se-suspende-juicio-en-la-causa-bertha-caceres/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/15/honduras-suspenden-juicio-de-la-causa-bertha-caceres/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1224873-466/suspenden-juicio-oral-y-p%C3%BAblico-en-caso-de-la-ambientalista-bertha-c%C3%A1ceres>

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/video-equipo-legal-presenta-denuncia-ante-el-ministerio-publico/>

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1051849515022602240>

For some weeks now, inhabitants of Choluteca protest regularly against the rising electricity prices. Last Friday, members of the police and the military violently repressed the protesters as well as a journalist and several HRDs accompanying them.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/criminalizacion-de-la-protesta-publica/912-policias-reprimen-a-periodista-defensores-de-derechos-humanos-y-ciudadanos-que-convocaron-a-manifestacion-pacifica>

This June 18, inhabitants of Las Vegas, Santa Bárbara, protested against the attempted privatization of local water resources. During the protest, the municipality building caught fire. The JOH regime reacted by emitting no less than 31 arrest warrants several of which have been executed and nine people are imprisoned in the so-called maximum security prison El Pozo. Defensores en Línea highlights that most of the accused belong to Libre and the local mayoralty is criminalizing them to get rid of the political opposition.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/resistencia-de-santa-barbara-acechada-por-la-dictadura-hondurena/>

El Pulso spoke with CIPRODEH's director Wilfredo Méndez about the JOH's regime's attempt to present non-state actors such as gangs as the main source of human rights violations. Méndez rightly responds: "If assassinations takes place or if existing criminal structures or individuals persecute the inhabitants of a country, this is the responsibility of the State. If the State does not comply with the responsibility to prosecute the gang member, the drug trafficker, it is the State which violates human rights initially caused by the action of the gang member or whichever criminal structure."

<http://elpulso.hn/los-derechos-humanos-quien-los-garantiza-es-el-estado-wilfredo-mendez/>

Defensores en Línea reports on the ongoing violent eviction of campesinxs. On October 11, two commandos of the First Engineer Battalion of Siguatepeque joined by police agents violently evicted some 120 campesino families in El Porvenir near Siguatepeque, Comayagua.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/sigue-brutalidad-de-terratenientes-contr-campesinos-que-estan-en-recuperacion-de-tierras/>

Guatemala emitted a press release announcing that they would not allow entry to the Honduran caravan headed for the US. Yesterday evening, Nina Lakhani reported for the Guardian that they had crossed the Guatemalan border. The Commission of Social Mennonite Actions (CASM) calls for humanitarian assistance for the migrants. According to FOSDEH, the caravan is just the most public manifestation of migrating Honduras. Every day, some 200-250 Hondurans leave their country.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/15/gobierno-de-guatemala-advierte-que-no-permitira-ingreso-de-caravana-de-migrantes/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/oct/15/guatemala-caravan-honduras-migrants-border-reject>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/15/caravana-de-migrantes-constituye-una-situacion-de-crisis-humanitaria-casm/>

<https://tiempo.hn/fosdeh-entre-200-y-250-hondurenos-migran-diariamente-de-honduras/>

The MP denied information to Reporteros de Investigación regarding the involvement of members of the Armed Forces in human trafficking in Honduras.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/10/15/ministerio-publico-esconde-cifras-de-militares-hondurenos-o-estadounidenses-investigados-por-supuesta-trata-de-personas/>

A member of the Military Police was arrested. He is accused of murder.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/15/cae-policia-militar-por-matar-doliente/>

<https://tiempo.hn/capturan-a-policia-militar-asesinato/>

Three active member and a purged member of the National Police Force faced trial yesterday for corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mandan-a-audiencia-a-tres-policias-activos-y-un-depurado-por-presunta-corrupcion/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1225083-466/este-martes-dictar%C3%A1n-fallo-contramiembros-de-la-polic%C3%ADa>

OAS' General Secretary Luis Almagro and Congress' president Mauricio Oliva signed an agreement to have the OAS accompany the electoral reforms in Honduras. The OAS will form an expert group to elaborate a proposal which will be handed over latest by December 31.

UN representative and organizer of the National Dialogue, Igor Garafulic, greets this development.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/15/oea-y-congreso-nacional-de-honduras-suscriben-carta-de-entendimiento-para-reformas-electorales/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/parlamento-de-honduras-y-oea-firman-acuerdo-para-analizar-reformas-electorales/>

<https://tiempo.hn/mauricio-oliva-firma-convenio-de-apoyo-para-realizar-reformas-electorales-en-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/garafulic-esta-contento-por-incorporacion-de-la-oea-al-dialogo-politico-en-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/bienvenida-la-oea-y-esfuerzos-de-partidos-politicos-para-lograr-reformas-electorales-dice-igor-garafulic.html>

When he said that, he probably had not known yet that the Liberal Party decided against reincorporating itself into the National Dialogue.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/pl-decide-suspender-su-participacion-en-las-mesas-del-dialogo-politico.html>

The Liberal Party, meanwhile, intends to form a new opposition block called "Union for Honduras".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3017-partido-liberal-anuncia-acercamiento-con-juliette-handal>

The JOH regime still claims that the ENEE won't be privatized.

<https://confidencialhn.com/burocrata-niega-privatizacion-de-la-enee-y-habla-de-una-tercerizacion/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/15/el-huracan-juan-hernandez-el-mas-devastador/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3016-huracan-juan-largate-ya-partido-liberal>

16/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs - Award; OFRANEH; Caravan - US, Defamation, HR; Journalists; Corruption - RNP, IHSS, National Party; National Police; Congress; Economy; and the National Dialogue

COPINH compiled some of the documented irregularities committed by the MP and the Honduran judicial system during the investigation and trial of the assassination of Berta Cáceres.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/opinh-junto-al-equipo-legal-que-acompana-la-causa-berta-caceres-no-pasara-por-alto-ninguna-irregularidad-durante-este-proceso/>

The Alignment against Reelection (CCC) met with the criminalized human rights defenders in Guapinol to express their solidarity and accompaniment.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-ccc-expreso-su-solidaridad-a-los-defensores-de-ddhh-de-tocoa/>

Tomorrow, Honduran human rights organizations will present for the third time the National Carlos Escaleras Award. Ten HRDs have been nominated.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/16/por-tercer-ano-consecutivo-entregaran-premio-nacional-carlos-escaleras/>

Three years after a sentence emitted by the IACtHR and with a new court date planned for November 29 because the JOH regime had continued to ignore the sentence, OFRANEH can finally inform about some first initial steps by the National Agrarian Institute (INA) to correct past wrongs.

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/10/16/trtres-anos-despues-de-emision-sentencia-corte-idh-del-caso-triunfo-inician-remedicion/>

The caravan of migrants which set off last week in San Pedro Sula has grown to some 3000-4000 people while crossing Guatemala.

The Mexican government deployed the federal police to its border.

Amnesty International asked Mexico to listen to the migrants, hear their stories and inform them about their rights.

The governor of Chiapas, meanwhile, said that he will greet the migrants with open doors.

Sandra Cuffe, who regularly reports on Honduras, has published several interesting articles in English on the caravan, one focusing on US policy as a push factor (5th link).

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/caravana-de-migrantes-hondurenos-se-interna-en-territorio-guatemalteco-con-rumbo-a-estados-unidos/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/caravana-hondurena-no-es-una-amenaza-a-la-seguridad-es-un-grupo-de-personas-con-derechos-humanos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/16/chiapas-espera-caravana-de-migrantes-hondurenos/>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/alternatives-thousands-flee-honduras-bound-caravan-181016193005484.html>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/migrant-caravan-activists-trump-blame-honduras-situation-181016213544549.html>

<http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-honduras-migrant-caravan-20181016-story.html>

"Donald Trump has threatened to cut off millions of dollars of aid to Honduras if it fails to stop a group of as many as 2,000 migrants fleeing violence and poverty who are attempting to reach the US border overland."

Honduran Finance Minister Rocío Táborá talked down the impact of the threat. US vice-president Mike Pence, meanwhile, doubled down in a phone call with JOH.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/oct/16/trump-honduras-migrant-caravan-aid>

<http://elpulso.hn/trump-amenaza-con-cortar-ayuda-a-honduras-si-caravana-sigue-hacia-ee-uu/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/16/descartan-que-amenaza-de-trump-impacte-en-las-finanzas-publicas/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1225193-410/mike-pence-juan-orlando-herandez-caravana-migrante-eeuu-honduras>

Just hours after Trump's threat, journalist and former Libre congressman Bartolo Fuentes was arrested by the Guatemalan police. He had been accompanying the caravan from the beginning and has been the target of a vicious attack by the media and the JOH regime falsely accusing him of having organized the caravan (see 4th- 7th link).

According to COFADEH, Fuentes has been transferred to the Institute of Migration in Guatemala City.

The Honduran National Committee for the Liberation of the Political Prisoners condemned his arrest reiterating that they do not want any more political prisoners.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/amenazas/914-policia-de-guatemala-detiene-a-periodista-hondureno-que-acompana-caravana-de-migrantes>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/por-ingreso-irregular-policia-de-guatemala-captura-a-bartolo-fuentes/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/no-queremos-mas-presos-politicos/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3021-gobierno-hondureno-insiste-en-complot-politico-por-caravana-migrante>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/16/gobierno-de-honduras-dice-que-caravana-de-migrantes-es-organizada-por-sectores-politicos/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/presidente-herandez-pide-a-hondurenos-no-exponer-sus-vidas-y-prestarse-a-juegos-politicos-e-inhumanos.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/presidente-del-legislativo-senala-a-dirigentes-de-libre-por-caravana-migratoria-rumbo-a-ee-uu/>

The UN Office of the Human Rights Commissioner in Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico emitted a joint press release expressing their concern about the security of the migrants and their need for protection.

The Honduran office also linked to the following UN guide: "Principles and Guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3022-onu-preocupada-por-situacion-de-migrantes-hondurenos-en-caravana>

<https://twitter.com/ONUDDHH/status/1052340750455906305>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FyoXOdfRhhrzb7PYS222Whjukd570vjP/view>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the ongoing harassment of journalist Jairo López.

In a second article, Pasos de Animal Grande focuses on the situation of journalists in La Paz who dare reporting on corruption.

C-Libre denounces that the head of the University Observatory of Food

and Nutrition Security, Margarita Oseguera de Ochoa, denied a journalist of ConexiHon an interview on the World Food Day. She told the journalist that he has to present a formal request to talk to her...

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2307-caso-periodista-jairo-lopez-cuando-el-poder-se-pasa-de-la-rama-el-entramado-de-una-colision-de-transito>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/amenazas-a-la-libertad-de-expresion/item/2306-el-departamento-de-la-paz-atrapado-entre-la-censura-y-corrupcion>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/obstruccion-informativa/913-funcionaria-publica-niega-entrevista-a-periodista-porque-no-hizo-solicitud-formal>

In a new country-wide operation by the MP called Dragon 419 people were arrested. One of the targets was corruption.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1225453-466/419-detenidos-en-operaci%C3%B3n-drag%C3%B3n-x-realizada-en-honduras>

<https://www.mp.hn/index.php/author-login/104-octubre2018/3540-operacion-dragon-x>

El Pulso published an overview of the cases of corruption linked to the National Persons Registry (RNP) in the last years. Just between 2017 and 2018, some 100 cases have been documented.

<http://elpulso.hn/recuento-de-la-corrucion-en-el-rnp/>

On November 1, the sentence against the former IHSS director Benjamín Bográn will be known.

<https://confidencialhn.com/piden-condena-entre-uno-y-cuatro-anos-de-carcel-contrex-directivo-del-ihss-por-sobornos/>

The former Nationalist congressman Roger Arquímedes Quiroz was found guilty of tax fraud.

<https://confidencialhn.com/hallan-culpable-a-exparlamentario-nacionalista-por-defraudacion-fiscal-va-a-la-carcel/>

After a month of silence on Honduras, in which several police officials and agents have been arrested, InSight Crime published a new article on the Honduran police: "The arrest of high-ranking Honduras police officers accused of having criminal network ties illustrates the challenges the government will have to tackle if it wants to successfully complete the purging of its police forces." Some of the recently arrested police officials and agents have to await trial in prison.

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/arrests-honduras-police-reveal-setbacks-purge/>

<https://tiempo.hn/dejan-en-prision-a-policias-que-cobraban-sobornos-en-choluteca/>

Nincy Perdomo published her newest installment of the parliamentary chronicles.

<http://elpulso.hn/cp-91011-10-2018/>

The director of the business lobby COHEP publicly denounces the recent increases in consumer taxes, e.g. on fuel, and other taxes.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3019-el-gobierno-es-la-unica-empresa-que-gana-cohep>

The National Dialogue has been suspended once again.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3020-honduras-suspenden-dialogo-nacional-hasta-nuevo-aviso>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/onu-espera-que-se-restablezcan-condiciones-para-reanudar-dialogo-politico.html>

17/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Post-electoral Violence; MADJ; Mining - Los Pinares; Garífunas; LGBTI; Forensic Medicine; MACCIH; Caravan - Defamation; US; Campesinx; Public Health; National Police; and Thinking about the Dialogue

The Berta Cáceres trial has been rescheduled again, taking place this Friday at 10am. Once more, COPINH and Berta's family was not allowed to exhaust all legal motions granted by law.

A recent article by People Dispatch gives an overview in English on the irregularities accompanying the trial as well as the vicious campaign by Amsterdam & Partners LL against COPINH.

ContraCorriente published an interview with Kenia Oliva, the lawyer representing Gustavo Castro. They speak about the irregularities of the process, the absence of the intellectual authors of the assassination and the possibility of COPINH and Berta's family withdrawing from what has so far been a sham trial. "The Berta Cáceres trial is political, it won't be resolved by solely imprisoning the hitmen."

<https://twitter.com/radiohrn/status/1052758842742898688>

<https://peoplesdispatch.org/2018/10/16/honduran-court-attempts-to-push-forward-in-bertha-caceres-trial-despite-irregularities/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/10/17/el-juicio-del-caso-de-bertha-caceres-es-politico-no-se-resuelve-encerrando-solo-a-los-sicarios/>

Criterio reports that the MP cited the head of the Armed Forces for questioning regarding the post-electoral assassinations. They base their information on three tweets by the MP.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/ultima-hora-ministerio-publico-requiere-a-jefe-de-las-ff-aa-por-muertes-de-periodo-postelectoral/>

https://twitter.com/MP_Honduras/status/1052684744545226754

https://twitter.com/MP_Honduras/status/1052684812857868288

https://twitter.com/MP_Honduras/status/1052684894265061376

<https://tiempo.hn/mp-requiere-al-jefe-de-ff-aa-informacion-necesaria-sobre-muertes-poselectorales/>

Witness for Peace published a second statement of solidarity with MADJ due to the ongoing attacks against the organization: "Last week, two separate incidents unmistakably demonstrated that the level of threat for MADJ activists continues to be high."

<http://witnessforpeace.org/when-defamation-is-the-prelude-to-violence-the-escalation-of-intimidation-tactics-against-madj/>

The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, a joint program by the FIDH and OMCT, and COFADEH denounce the criminalization of HRDs peacefully protesting against the mining project of Inversiones los Pinares in Guapinol.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-nueva-ola-de-criminalizacion-de-las-personas-defensoras-de-derechos-humanos-en-el-bajo-aguan/>

Defensores en Línea traveled to Guadalupe, Colón, to speak with the local Garífuna communities facing eviction threats.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-despojo-de-tierras-es-la-principal-amenaza-que-enfrentan-las-comunidades-garifunas/>

The Committee for Diversity filed a complaint at the MP against JOH and the Evangelical Confraternity for promoting hate speech against the LGBTI community.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2308-el-comite-de-la-diversidad-denuncia-ante-el-ministerio-publico-al-presidente-de-la-republica-y-a-confraternidad-evangelica-por-promover-discurso-de-odio-contra-la-comunidad-lgtb>

Radio Globo reported that the head of Forensic Medicine, Julissa Villanueva, is about to be fired by Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla. This would be worrisome, as Villanueva is pushing for the investigation into the murder of ATIC regional director Sheril Yubissa Hernández, a murder which the ATIC tried to present as a suicide.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fiscal-chinchilla-despedira-a-julissa-villanueva-como-jefa-forense-del-ministerio-publico/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/villanueva-denuncia-que-atic-quiere-controlar-sistema-de-videovigilancia-de-medicina-forense/>

The MACCIH handed in its newest report to the OAS.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1225763-466/operadores-de-justicia-acompa%C3%B1an-la-entrega-de-informe-de-la-macch>

While the one caravan is still in Guatemala, a second one started in Choluteca.

And according to El Tiempo, another one set off from La Ceiba. Mexico's president-elect, Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) told media outlets that the right response to migration are not deportations or the show of force, but rather creating options and alternatives.

Radio Progreso highlights the current caravan of migrants heading north as "the most obvious expression of politicians and a state policy based on a development model of exploiting natural resources and accelerating the privatization of public services".

The coordinator of FOSDEH, Mauricio Díaz, agrees concluding that failed state policies made Honduras one of the poorest in Latin America and into "a migrant factory".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3024-inhabitable-otra-caravana-salio-de-honduras-ahora-del-sur-y-otros-grupos-huyen-a-ee-uu>

<https://confidencialhn.com/otro-grupo-de-hondurenos-parten-desde-choluteca-y-san-lorenzo-rumbo-a-ee-uu/>

<https://tiempo.hn/segunda-caravana-de-migrantes-ha-salido-hoy-desde-la-ceiba-mientras-que-frontera-esta-obstaculizada/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/plan-de-gobierno-de-amlo-contempla-visas-de-trabajo-para-centroamericanos/>

<http://wp.radioprogresohn.net/exclusion-y-modelo-extractivista-expulsores-de-hondurenos-y-hondurenas/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-el-pais-mas-pobre-de-latinoamerica-es-una-fabrica-de-migrantes-economista/>

The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders called for the safety of journalist Bartolo Fuentes who was arrested in Guatemala while accompanying the caravan and they also call for the protection of the migrants.

A similar calls comes from ACODEHU in Costa Rica.

At the same time, after several press releases and social media posts, the US embassy now tries with a video to keep Honduras from migrating.

Especialy worrying is that the Chargé d'affaires Heide Fulton helps spread the lie about political interests driving behind the caravan. The National Party continues with this narrative.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/833-observatorio-internacional-llama-a-garantizar-integridad-y-seguridad-de-bartolo-fuentes>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/libertad-para-bartolo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/migrantes-estan-siendo-enganados-por-lideres-con-fines-politicos-y-criminales-heide-fulton/>

<https://tiempo.hn/fulton-repite-amenazas-de-trump-y-asegura-que-leyes-migratorias-se-aplicaran/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3025-insolito-partido-nacional-culpa-a-libre-por-huida-masiva-de-hondurenos>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3021-gobierno-hondureno-insiste-en-complot-politico-por-caravana-migrante>

Trump's threat to cut assistance to Honduras caused some debate on how much US money is flowing to Honduras. According to El Pulso, Honduras received \$430 million between 2014-2017 and for the coming fiscal year which started on October 1, the US budgeted \$65.7 million. Oscar Miguel Marroquín even believes that Trump's threats are a sign that the JOH regime stopped being useful to him and new elections may come soon.

<http://elpulso.hn/de-cuanto-es-la-ayuda-economica-de-ee-uu-a-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/adelantar-las-elecciones/>

Honduras' campesinxs took to the streets to demand the right conditions to produce food in Honduras, e.g. access to land. They further demand the derogation of the Mining Law as well as an FPIC bill in accordance with Honduras' indigenous peoples.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/campesinos-de-honduras-exigen-condiciones-para-producir-alimentos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/organizaciones-sociales-saldran-a-defender-los-bienes-y-el-derecho-a-una-alimentacion-digna/>

Renowned HRD Padre Melo breaks with one of his conventions not to discuss personal matters publicly due to the great suffering and feeling of helplessness in the case of his sister and her health resulting from the inhuman treatment at the IHSS hospital in San Pedro Sula.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/el-drama-en-el-sistema-hospitalario-del-seguro-social-en-san-pedro-sula-honduras-mi-testimonio-sobre-lo-que-he-visto-y-oido/>

Another police agent linked to the still wanted police commissioner Tinoco got arrested.

<https://tiempo.hn/cae-otra-complice-del-comisionado-tinoco-implicada-en-caso-de-soborno/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/el-dialogo-2/>

18/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - MP; HRDs; Post-Electoral Violence; IACtHR; Caravan - US, Mexico, Journalists, Defamation, Canada; Journalists; MACCIH; Budget - Poverty; Electoral Reforms; National Police; Public Health; and 20 Years After Mitch

COPINH published an important overview of the information which the MP so far has not analyzed or not shared with them. They reiterate that under such circumstances, due process cannot be guaranteed.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/por-que-el-primer-juicio-en-la-causa-berta-caceres-no-debe-iniciar-en-estas-condiciones/>

HRD María Ubaldina Santos won the third edition of the Carlos Escaleras Award. Ubaldina Santos is the regional coordinator of MADJ in Atlántida. She has suffered from displacements, persecution and threats for her work and she is a beneficiary of special protection measures granted by the IACHR in 2013.

The award is dedicated to the HRD Carlos Escaleras who was murdered 21 years ago in the Bajo Aguán.

Six environmental defenders have been criminalized for opposing illegal logging in the protected area "Reserva Biológica El Chile".

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/18/mujer-comprometida-con-el-medio-ambiente-en-tela-atlantida-gana-premio-carlos-escaleras/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/en-memoria-de-carlos-escaleras-18-octubre-2018/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/18/pobladores-son-querellados-por-oponerse-a-corte-del-bosque/>

Out of the blue, the MP informed on Wednesday that they will question the head of the Armed Forces about the post-electoral violence.

Yesterday, General Rene Ponce Fonseca claimed that "at no time have we shot any citizen"...

According to El Heraldo, the MP asked detailed information from the Armed Forces, but they either failed to answer or said that the information was classified.

Libre congressman Jorge Cálix thinks that the MP's request are an important step and he reminds the Armed Forces that they are committing a crime if they don't collaborate with the MP.

<http://www.web.elibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3028-honduras-jefe-del-ejercito-niega-crmenes-electorales>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ffaa-hondurenas-niegan-tener-participacion-en-crmenes-poselectorales/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/informes-sobre-22-muertes-postelectorales-esta-en-manos-de-muchas-instituciones-revela-jefe-de-ffaa.html>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1226047-466/hasta-n%C3%BAmero-de-serie-de-fusiles-est%C3%A1-solicitando-el-ministerio-p%C3%ABlico-a>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/mp-ha-dado-un-paso-importante-en-solicitar-informacion-sobre-muertes-tras-elecciones-dice-jorge-calix.html>

Due to Honduras' lack of complying with sentences by the IACtHR, Honduran human rights organizations came together in a special supervision board. On October 24, they will hold the next public forum on the topic.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/estado-y-sociedad-civil-discutiran-avances-y-obstaculos-en-cumplimiento-de-sentencias-contra-honduras/>

Political analyst published a helpful analysis of the push factors involved in driving Hondurans to migrate. He ends with an important question that still remains open: "What alternative model do we put before the current model, which excludes and generates misery and migration?"

The writer and former UNAH professor Galel Cárdenas makes use of Dante's Divina Comedia to make sense of Honduras' situation: "The thousand souls thus dividing the vague air is the concretion of a people in their exodus of survival, a people in a state of starvation, famine and pauperization provoked sadistically by Juan Orlando Hernández."

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle, meanwhile, reflects on the effects of the caravan on the JOH regime and why it did not stop or repress them. Criterio published a new article on some of the people making up the caravan accompanied with various photographs.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/196008>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/opiniones/836-las-almas-mil-asi-hendiendo-el-aire-vago>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/opiniones/835-lo-que-dice-la-caravana>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/16/una-marea-humana-que-avanza-huyendo-del-hambre-y-la-miseria/>

"Donald Trump is threatening to deploy the US military and close the southern border with Mexico if a convoy of migrants from Central America is allowed to keep moving northwards."

While Trump presents the migrants as criminals and a threat to the US, US Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky rightly points out that the migrants are rather fleeing from a threat built up by the US: "The migrant caravan struggling toward our border is a direct result of Juan Orlando Hernandez's anti-democratic regime. We must support these refugees and stop turning a blind eye to Hernandez's repression and violence."

Trump's threats to cut aid to Honduras (see yesterday) may have a welcome side-effect as many HRDs and activists have for years called for an end of US military assistance to Honduras.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/oct/18/trump-threatens-to-close-us-mexico-border-over-migrant-caravan>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3026-trump-califica-como-criminales-a-hondurenos-en-caravana-migrante>

<https://twitter.com/janschakowsky/status/1052981424956026882>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/18/congresista-de-ee-uu-dice-que-caravana-de-migrantes-es-responsabilidad-del-regimen-antidemocratico-de-hernandez/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3030-congresista-de-ee-uu-culpa-a-trump-y-joh-por-exodo-de-hondurenos>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-activists-trump-threats-cut-security-aid-181018183208432.html>

Criterio reports that a Mexican HRD has been arrested in Chiapas for accompanying the Honduran caravan.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/18/por-apoyar-caravana-de-migrantes-detienen-en-chiapas-a-defensor-de-dd-hh/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/18/detienen-a-conocido-activista-mexicano-que-apoyaba-caravana-de-migrantes-video/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/comunicado-en-respuesta-a-la-llegada-de-la-caravana-de-honduras-a-tapachula-chiapas/>

Both ConexiHon and Defensores en Línea reported yesterday that the Honduran journalist Bartolo Fuentes would be deported the same day to Honduras.

Pasos de Animal Grande informs about previous instances when Fuentes was persecuted by those in power.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/834-periodista-bartolo-fuentes-sera-expulsado-de-guatemala-en-las-proximas-horas>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/editorial/item/2309-bartolo-fuentes-ha-sido-un-eterno-perseguido-por-los-aparatos-represivos-del-estado>

Libre reacts to the defamation campaign by the JOH regime against them relating to the migrant caravan. "After almost a decade of destroying the Republic, storming the treasury and handing over the country in exchange for crumbs, the verdict of the history points to the National Party and Juan Orlando Hernández as responsible for the humanitarian crisis that triggered this painful exodus of compatriots, expelled from their land by the promoters and executors of a coup d'état, electoral fraud, privatizations and death squads." The JOH regime, meanwhile, continues with its campaign even threatening criminal investigations.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3027-libre-rechaza-acusacion-de-complot-politico-por-migrantes-hondurenos>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-se-organizo-con-fines-politicos-y-criminales-y-debe-ser-investigada-gobierno.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/exigen-persecucion-penal-contra-mentes-maquivelicas-que-se-aprovechan-de-la-pobreza/>

Fred Alvarado criticizes the silence of Canada regarding the caravan. "The Canadian government has the characteristic of abstaining and not engaging with Honduras other than in matters related to trade, tourism and mining."

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/18/silencio-gobierno-canadiense-mudo-ante-masivo-exodo-de-hondurenos-y-militarizacion-de-las-fronteras/>

A new dispute is on the horizon between the right to access to information and the right of being presumed innocent.

<https://tiempo.hn/aprueban-mocion-en-el-congreso-nacional-para-prohibir-exhibir-a-detenidos-chp-manifiesta-precupacion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/vicepresidente-del-legislativo-pide-investigar-el-porque-se-exhibe-publicamente-a-sospechosos-de-delitos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/diputados-exigiran-respetar-presuncion-de-inocencia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/purgador-policia-justifica-el-atropello-de-la-presuncion-de-inocencia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/colegio-de-periodistas-esta-molesto-por-decision-de-proteger-intimidad-de-acusados-por-delitos/>

Various government representatives met with the MACCIH.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/poderes-del-estado-y-oea-dan-seguimiento-a-informe-anticorruccion-de-maccih.html>

An analysis of the 2019 budget by FOSDEH concludes that once more it fails to be a tool for development but it rather generates poverty and inequality.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/17/presupuesto-de-la-republica-antes-que-desarrollo-produce-pobreza-fosdeh/>

PINU congresswoman Doris Gutiérrez denounces that Honduras has to pay 6 million Lempiras for the OAS expert panel on electoral reforms (see also Tuesday's e-mail).

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/18/honduras-pago-l-6-millones-a-la-oea-para-hacer-reformas-electorales-doris-gutierrez/>

The Security Secretariat announced new changes in the leadership of the National Police Force.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/secretaria-de-seguridad-realiza-rotaciones-en-la-policia-a-nivel-nacional.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/secretaria-de-seguridad-hondurena-realiza-cambios-en-jefaturas-policiales/>

The University Hospital suspended surgeries for the lack of medical equipment.

<https://confidencialhn.com/suspenden-cirugias-en-el-hospital-escuela-por-falta-de-equipo-medico/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/10/18/20-anos-despues-y-la-vulnerabilidad-sigue-hundiendo-a-la-capital/>

19/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial, Spain; IACtHR; Caravan - Defamation, Journalists, US; Mining; Judicial Power; LGBTI; MACCIH; Corruption - de Lobo; National Police; Violence; and Love Under Difficult Circumstances

CEJIL demands a transparent and public trial as the JOH regime tries to push through the Berta Cáceres trial in a sea of irregularities. Given this worrisome situation, CEJIL felt compelled to write an amicus curiae to the Honduran judicial system.

The same day, COPINH emitted an alert on Twitter that the sentencing tribunal decided to leave COPINH and Berta's family without legal representation. COPINH announced further information will be published on their social media channels later on.

Interestingly, Proceso Digital has already published an article on the subject. According to them, the trial will continue this morning at 9am without the presence of COPINH's and Berta's family's lawyers...

<https://www.cejil.org/es/exigimos-al-estado-honduras-garantizar-transparencia-y-publicidad-juicio-berta-caceres>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1053431527852462080>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caso-berta-caceres-ordenan-iniciar-juicio-este-sabado-y-excluyen-del-mismo-a-abogados-acusadores.html>

The Spanish congressman Pedro Arrojo arrived in Honduras to accompany the Berta Cáceres trial.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/el-diputado-del-congreso-espanol-pedro-arrojo-llego-a-honduras-para-acompanar-el-proceso-en-el-primer-juicio-en-la-causa-berta-caceres/>

CEJIL published additional information on next Wednesday's public forum on the failure of the JOH regime to comply with IACtHR sentences. The forum focuses on the challenges in investigating human rights violations in Honduras.

<https://www.cejil.org/es/honduras-expertos-analizaran-obstaculos-investigacion-violaciones-derechos-humanos-contexto>

Part of the Honduran migrant caravan have already crossed into Mexico, while the rest is stuck in Guatemala. Mexico increased its border security, just hours after US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, traveled to Mexico urging the Mexican government to stop the caravan. Mexico asked the UNHCR for support in processing the Honduran migrants. The UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, Felipe González, called out on the US and Mexico to guarantee the rights of the Honduran migrants.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-migrant-caravan-advances-fortified-borders-181019203930805.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/19/caravana-de-hondurenos-cruza-mexico-tras-enfrentarse-con-la-policia-federal/>

<http://elpulso.hn/pompeo-llega-a-mexico-en-medio-de-crisis-por-caravana-de-migrantes/>

<http://elpulso.hn/mexico-pide-a-onu-ayuda-para-procesar-migrantes-de-caravana/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/migrantes/1-migrantes/relator-de-la-onu-pide-a-mexico-y-eeuu-proteger-derechos-de-caravana-migrante.html>

ContraCorriente published rebuttals of the arguments presented by the JOH regime as well as the US Chargé d'affaires on the origins of the migrant caravan.

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/10/18/the-us-government-and-embassys-questionable-arguments-about-the-migrant-caravan/?lang=en>

Journalist and HRD Bartolo Antonio Fuentes was deported to Honduras yesterday after having been detained in Guatemala for accompanying the migrant caravan. He denounces the JOH regime for criminalizing him, falsely claiming that he had organized and coordinated the caravan. The regime, meanwhile, does not intend to stop as new remarks by Honduras' Foreign Secretary, María Dolores Agüero, show. She demands that the MP investigates him. C-Libre denounces that these accusations put him in danger. The First Lady also contributes to this climate. And similar statements come from the deputy Foreign Secretary.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/19/bartolo-fuentes-promete-seguir-apoyando-a-migrantes-tras-ser-deportado-a-honduras/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3032-hondurenos-reciben-como-heroe-a-periodista-bartolo-fuentes>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3031-gobierno-de-joh-pide-al-ministerio-publico-actuar-contra-bartolo>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/amenazas/916-en-riesgo-vida-de-periodista-bartolo-fuentes-con-acusaciones-de-canciller-hondurena>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/el-gobierno-no-descansara-hasta-asistir-a-los-compatriotas-que-emigraron-bajo-falsa-promesas-primera-dama-ana-garcia.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/movilizaciones-atipicas-no-son-de-dios-vicecanciller-cree-que-tras-marcha-hay-intereses-politicos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/parlamentaria-recomienda-al-gobierno-no-estigmatizar-a-los-migrantes-sugiere-crear-plan-de-emergencia3/>

In the US, the caravan has arrived in the headlines of the big media outlets such as the New York Times (asking "What Is the Migrant Caravan and Why Does Trump Care?") and the New Yorker ("Why the Trump White House Is Having a Meltdown Over the Migrant Caravan"). The Honduras Solidarity Network of North America explains the Honduran refugee crisis as a result of "US Policy and US Partners". They further condemn "any threats and acts of repression against the refugee caravan, human rights activists and journalists that accompany their journey".

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/18/world/americas/trump-migrant-caravan.html>

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/why-the-trump-white-house-is-having-a-meltdown-over-the-migrant-caravan>

<http://www.hondurassolidarity.org/2018/10/20/honduran-migrant-march-a-refugee-crisis-caused-by-us-policy-and-us-partners/>

In Tocoa, Colón, the Regional Meeting of the Central American Alliance against Mining took place on Thursday.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn/es-necesario-articular-lucha-en-defensa-de-los-bienes-naturales-en-centroamerica-concluye-encuentro-centroamericano-contra-la-mineria/>

Yesterday, the magistrate Tirza Flores Lanza and the judge Guillermo López Lone were finally reinstated in the positions they had before the coup d'état. This took place nine years after having been arbitrarily fired and after a sentence by the IACtHR.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/19/jueces-destituidos-durante-el-golpe-de-estado-de-2009-reintegrados-a-sus-cargos-en-el-poder-judicial/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/magistrado-despedido-en-2009-se-reincorpora-como-juez-de-sentencia-en-sps.html>

Radio HRN published another fierce attack by an evangelical priest against the LGBTI community and same sex marriage.

<http://radiohrn.hn/2018/10/19/anuncian-tomas-contra-el-matrimonio-gay-en-honduras/>

The head of the MACCIH, Luiz Marrey, met with the US State Department as well as US civil society organizations while in Washington DC.

https://twitter.com/OEA_MACCIH/status/1053435493709479936

https://twitter.com/OEA_MACCIH/status/1053409030645956608

The former first lady, Rosa Elena de Lobo, who awaits a corruption trial behind bars was transferred to the hospital yesterday.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/rosa-elena-bonilla-trasladada-de-urgencia-al-hospital-militar.html>

An active member of the police force will have to await trial in prison. He is accused of bribery.

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/se-entrega-policia-activo-implicado-en-sobornos-a-ganaderos-en-la-zona-sur.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/se-entrega-agente-policial-acusado-de-integrar-banda-jefeada-por-subcomisionado/>

In a mass killing in the capital, armed men arrived at a bar in Comayagüela at shot dead at least eight people.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1226306-466/nueva-masacre-deja-al-menos-ocho-personas-muertas-en-la-capital-de>

<https://tiempo.hn/nueva-masacre-al-menos-ocho-personas-muertas-al-norte-de-tegucigalpa/>

"Karen Spring, a Canadian human rights activist and expert, and political prisoner Edwin Espinal were married at midday, October 18, 2018, in the maximum security "La Tolva" military jail in Honduras. They were married 9 months after Edwin was illegally jailed for his participation in widespread protests against government killings, and against the fraudulent, repressive elections of November 2017."

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/19/edwin-espinal-contrae-matrimonio-en-la-tolva/>

20/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Caravan - Defamation, US; Political Opposition; and Honduras' Situation in One Drawing

COPINH published a press release with additional information about the newest irregularities regarding the Berta Cáceres trial. After an illegal (as COPINH and Berta's family legally challenged the

impartiality of the judges) re-start of the trial, the tribunal additionally decided that the legal team of the victims had to withdraw from the trial. We are now left in a situation of pure cynicism: the MP - which for 2.5 years "has demonstrated its inability and unwillingness to diligently promote the judicial process, systematically practicing illegal acts violating the rights to truth and justice" - now represents the interests of the victims in court...

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/tribunal-deja-sin-representacion-legal-a-victimas-en-la-causa-berta-caceres/>

The Episcopal Bishop Conference of Honduras emitted a press release expressing its concerns about the "human tragedy" as the current situation of Honduras forces people to migrate.

The JOH regime, meanwhile, announced the temporary closure of its Guatemalan border, supposedly to protect the integrity of the people trying to flee from Honduras.

El Tiempo highlights the double discourse on which this decision is based as the closure led to brutal police repression of the same Hondurans the regime apparently tries to protect.

The Guatemalan president Jimmy Morales claims that some 2000 Honduran migrants have already returned to Honduras.

Radio HRN reports that the UNHCR documented 2265 Honduran migrants at the Mexican border.

Mexico opened the border for a group of Honduran women and children.

<https://confidencialhn.com/conferencia-episcopal-esta-preocupada-por-tragedia-humana-en-caravana-migratoria/>

<https://tiempo.hn/ceh-sobre-caravana-de-migrantes/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/para-evitar-fuga-de-hondurenos-anuncian-cierre-de-frontera-con-guatemala/>

<https://tiempo.hn/con-doble-discurso-el-gobierno-de-honduras-cierra-la-frontera-agua-caliente-tras-violenta-represion-policial/>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/181021033220712.html>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1226527-410/envian-ayuda-para-hondurenos-deciden-retornar-desde-guatemala>

<http://radiohrn.hn/2018/10/20/en-frontera-mexicana-acnur-documenta-a-2265-migrantes-centroamericanos/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/minisitios/hondurenos-en-el-mundo/1226545-471/permiso-o-deportaci%C3%B3n-enfrenta-caravana-de-hondure%C3%B1os-en-m%C3%A9xico>

The JOH regime does not intend to stop its defamatory attacks against the political opposition. He now got the Guatemala president to join as well.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/honduras-y-guatemala-lamentan-los-fines-politicos-de-la-caravana-migratoria.html>

The US has supported the defamation campaign from the beginning. After the US embassy and its Chargé d'Affaires Heide Fulton, it is now time for Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to spread the lie that the political opposition organized the migrant caravan.

Of course, the corporate media outlets made this headline news.

But there are also other voices coming from the US, e.g. from congressman Ro Khanna: "A true solution to the migrant crisis requires democracy in Honduras. A US-backed coup in '09 plunged Honduras into violence, installed a corrupt gov't, and led to spike in migration. We must pass the Berta Caceres Act to cut funds to the regime until they respect human rights."

In Honduras, several protests took place around the country denouncing the campaign by the US against the Honduran migrants and how the US bullied El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico into submission.

<https://www.voanoticias.com/a/pompeo-entrevista-mexico-inmigracion-venezuela-/4621578.html?platform=hootsuite>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1226517-466/mike-pompeo-afirma-que-hay-l%C3%ADderes-pol%C3%ADticos-de-la-oposici%C3%B3n-tras-caravana>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/pompeo-denuncia-que-opositores-politicos-promueven-caravana-de-migrantes.html>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/mundo/1226518-410/mike-pompeo-detras-caravana-hay-lideres-politicos-oposicion>

<https://twitter.com/RepRoKhanna/status/1053438396549349376?s=03>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3034-fuera-fulton-hondurenos-se-movilizan-en-apoyo-a-migrantes>

The president of the Liberal Party calls for a united opposition to get rid of JOH. He also calls for a transitory government to prepare elections.

<https://tiempo.hn/luis-zelaya-exhorto-a-la-oposicion-a-unirse-y-exigir-la-salida-de-joh/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/10/19/honduras-se-hunde/>

21/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Caravan - Borders, Women, US; Liberal Party; Penitentiary System; and Palmerola and Germany

Nina Lakhani summarizes for the Guardian the recent deterioration in the Berta Cáceres. "The trial of eight men accused over the murder of Honduran indigenous leader Berta Cáceres has been thrown into disarray after judges ousted the victim's lawyers from proceedings. The legally suspect ruling in the country's most high-profile case leaves the verdict vulnerable to appeal. The case is considered a litmus test for the justice system which has received millions of dollars of international aid in recent years."

Ignoring this, the tribunal plans the continuation of the trial today at 1:30pm.

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/oct/21/trial-of-accused-killers-of-berta-caceres-in-chaos?CMP=share_btn_tw

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/component/k2/item/2311-tribunal-deja-sin-representacion-legal-a-victimas-en-la-causa-berta-caceres>

<https://tiempo.hn/reanudan-juicio-asesinato-berta-caceres/>

The Honduran Platform in Madrid sends a message of solidarity to the Honduran migrants and demands that JOH steps down faced by the humanitarian crisis.

Leticia Salomón emphasizes some of the lessons that should be taken from the current situation: i) the failure of the security policy of the JOH regime; ii) the subordination of the JOH regime to US interests; iii) the failure to invest in social policy; iv) the failure of Honduras' economic policy; v) the worsening of corruption and impunity; and vi) the migration crisis as a long-overdue bill to all those who supported the illegal reelection and the electoral fraud.

Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle sets his hopes in the future to set the image of the migrant caravan straight. "But in the historical process the theater always loses. The caravan showcases JOH to the world, although what has failed here is not only his government and the coup substitutes that destroyed the economy and catalyzed the social crisis. But the

model they imposed on us and that the coup protected, concentrating and excluding, extractivist and predatory, in which only the transnationals that fuel and export gold and the banks of friends prosper. History knows who will win."

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/21/plataforma-de-hondurenos-en-madrid-exige-salida-de-joh-ante-crisis-humanitaria/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/21/migracion-manipulacion-y-cinismo-oficial/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/21/la-caravana-con-que-honduras-conquistara-a-eua/>

Criterion reports on yesterday's announced closure of the Agua Caliente border to Guatemala (see also yesterday).

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/21/gobierno-de-honduras-cierre-frontera-con-guatemala-ante-exodo-de-ciudadanos/>

Sandra Cuffe published an important article on the migrant caravan focusing on women and how they find safety in numbers.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-women-find-safety-numbers-migrant-caravan-181021185658508.html>

The US continues to produce press releases criminalizing the migrants and building up the lie of a political plot.

Libre reacts to the various US statements speaking of political interests behind the caravan. In a press release, Libre rejects the accusations by Mike Pompeo and Heide Fulton and highlights the role of the US in destabilizing Honduras.

The National Party, meanwhile, feels itself reinforced by the US statements absurdly claiming that they are proof that the political opposition organized the caravan...

<https://hn.usembassy.gov/es/declaracion-del-secretario-pompeo-sobre-caravana-de-migrantes/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/21/mike-pompeo-y-heide-fulton-mienten-partido-libre/>

<https://tiempo.hn/libre-acusa-eeuu-miseria-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/oposicion-se-confabula-para-desestabilizar-el-pais-denuncia-partido-nacional.html>

Criterion published some additional information on the call by the Liberal President, Luis Zelaya, to form an united opposition to get rid of JOH.

Padre Melo also commented on this by publishing the following questions on Twitter: "Can any change be expected for the country or that the conditions forcing people to migrate change while JOH continues in power? What hopes do we have for a union of the positive forces of the country to organize a great internal caravan to press for his expulsion from the State?"

This internal caravan, i.e. protest march, is planned for tomorrow at 11:00am.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/21/luis-zelaya-exhorta-a-exigir-la-salida-de-hernandez-y-luego-formar-un-gobierno-de-transicion/>

https://twitter.com/Melosjmoreno/status/1054007043407966209?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

<https://tiempo.hn/padre-melo-y-luis-zelaya-union-sacar-poder-joh/>

<https://twitter.com/Melosjmoreno/status/1054163081436241920>

Once more, Honduran inmates are transferred unannounced from one prison to another.

<https://confidencialhn.com/trasladan-de-forma-sorpresiva-a-reos-desde-tamara-a-el-pozo-y-la-tolva/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/trasladan-23-reos-a-la-tolva-y-uno-a-el-pozo.html>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1226765-466/presentan-plan-para-desarrollar-zona-econ%C3%B3mica-de-palmerola>

22/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Post-Electoral Violence; Caravan - Journalists, US; Women's Rights; Corruption - de Lobo, ASJ; Congress; National Police; and a Thank You

Amnesty International denounces Friday's decision by the tribunal to leave Berta's family and COPINH without legal representation for the Berta Cáceres trial (see also yesterday).

The trial itself was once more suspended yesterday, apparently a file was not sent to the tribunal. The trial is planned to continue today at 9am.

<https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/AMR3792862018SPANISH.PDF>

<https://tiempo.hn/nuevamente-suspenden-juicio-contrainputados-en-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

The Armed Forces handed over a report to the MP regarding the post-electoral human rights violations.

<https://tiempo.hn/ff-aa-presenta-informacion-solicitada-por-el-ministerio-publico-sobre-muertes-poselectorales/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1227087-466/la-fiscal%C3%ADa-indaga-la-informaci%C3%B3n-enviada-por-las-fuerzas-armadas>

Criterion reports on the death of a Honduran migrant who fell from a truck in Mexico on the way from Tapachula to Huixtla.

In a make-shift press conference in Tapachula, migrants denounced that some of them had their children taken away from them by Mexican border agents.

ConexiHon published an interview with the Honduran photojournalist Withney Godoy who accompanies the migrant caravan. At the time of the interview (yesterday), they were in Tapachula preparing the next route to Huixtla.

Meanwhile in Honduras, the calls for protest against the JOH regime increase.

The temporary closure of the Agua Caliente border to Guatemala changed into an indeterminate closure.

Libre coordinator Manuel Zelaya proposes a national agreement between the political and social actors to overcome the crisis.

At the same time, Libre calls for an impeachment of JOH.

Honduran feminist and women's rights organization published a letter of solidarity with the migrants and call for the constitution of a roundtable for migrating and displaced women.

The Espacio ACI, a forum consisting of 30 international NGOs with presence in Honduras, launched an urgent call for the protection of the migrants and the respect of their rights.

Criterion published a long, but worthwhile analysis with important historical background by Tomas Andino Mencía.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/muere-migrante-hondureno-en-mexico-al-caer-de-camion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/un-joven-muere-en-la-caravana-migrante-al-caer-de-un-vehiculo.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/migrantes-de-honduras-denuncian-que-en-mexico-les-han-arrebatado-sus-hijos/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/840-caravana-migrante-whitney-godoy-fotoperiodista-hondurena-los-expulsan-la-violencia-y-la-pobreza>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/caravana-de-migrantes-hondurenos-avanza-por-territorio-mexicano-desafiando-el-cansancio-y-las-amenazas-de-trump/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/cierran-indefinidamente-aduana-de-agua-caliente-anuncia-linda-almendares.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/mel-zelaya-propone-un-acuerdo-nacional-para-enfrentar-crisis-en-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/libre-propone-juicio-politico-contr-a-el-presidente-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

See Attachment

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/agencias-de-cooperacion-urgen-proteccion-y-respeto-a-los-derechos-de-migrantes-de-caravana-hacia-eeuu/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/honduras-y-centroamerica-con-dolores-de-parto/>

Trump once more threatened yesterday to "begin cutting off, or substantially reducing, the massive foreign aid routinely given to them [Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador]".

US congressman Eliot L. Engel reacted by explaining to Trump that Congress decides over the budget.

In an OpEd focused on the poverty and violence Hondurans are fleeing from, Óscar Esquivel challenges a recent statement by US vice-president Mike Pence who accuses Hondurans of not respecting their borders and sovereignty. He rightly asks when the US and its foreign policy have ever respected Honduran sovereignty.

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/donald-trump-cutting-aid-central-america-migrants_us_5bcdcae7e4b055bc9482dbea

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/trump-anuncia-que-comenzara-a-cortar-la-ayuda-a-honduras-y-califica-de-emergencia-nacional-el-exodo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/congresista-eliot-engel-recuerda-a-trump-que-es-el-congreso-quien-aprueba-las-ayudas/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/congresista-engel-advierte-que-el-congreso-y-no-trump-es-el-que-puede-cancelar-la-ayuda-a-centroamerica.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/realidad-exodo-hn/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on a misinformation campaign by the JOH regime regarding the migrant caravan, especially regarding the claims that some 3400 have voluntarily returned.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2313-en-ocotepeque-hay-violacion-a-la-libertad-de-circulacion-y-ataques-a-periodistas-que-informan-sobre-la-caravana-de-migrantes>

According to Honduran feminist and women's rights organization, the National Women's Institute (INAM) and with it its program on rescue shelters for women suffering from violence do not get the funding needed to function. They warn that some 300 women and their children may be forced to return to a situation of violence.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3037-honduras-mas-de-1-200-vidas-en-riesgo-por-descuido-de-refugios-para-mujeres>

The next trial date in the corruption case against the former first lady Rosa Elena de Lobo was set for October 29.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1227083-466/cambian-de-fecha-audiencia-a-rosa-elena-de-lobo>

ConfidencialHN published the fourth part of its series on irregularities

around the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ). They accuse it of having become a "civil society cartel" during the National Party governments of the last years.

The ASJ's loyalty to the JOH regime can also be seen by its press release on the migration crisis. It blames previous governments and the political opposition.

<https://confidencialhn.com/asj-y-carlos-hernandez-trafican-con-influencias-para-chantajear-al-gobierno-y-acceder-a-privilegios/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/asj-culpa-a-oposicion-y-gobiernos-anteriores-por-multicrisis-que-provoca-masiva-migracion/>

In her newest edition of the Parliamentarian Chronicles, Nincy Perdomo writes about "Theater and Distraction".

<http://elpulso.hn/cp-1617-10-2018/>

The purging committee handed 830 files to the Bureau of Disciplinary Police Affairs (Didapol).

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/comision-depuradora-remite-830-casos-a-la-didadpol.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/anuncian-envio-de-830-expedientes-de-policias-que-incurrieron-en-faltas/>

"We want to thank each one of the [community] leaders, the indigenous women and men of all the peoples who fight ceaselessly for a different country. From here we want to say thank you for their struggle and we motivate ourselves not to abandon the accompaniment to the denunciation of the social injustices and the looting that the transnationals in conspiracy with the government carry out of our common goods of nature."

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/defender-la-vida-defendiendo-los-bienes-comunes/>

23/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Caravan - Support, Int Law, Defamation, US; Garífunas; Military Police; Corruption - TSC; Electoral Reforms; and Human Rights and the Environment

COPINH will hold a press conference today at 10:30am in Tegucigalpa to inform about the current situation of the trial and to present their reactions to the courts decision to exclude their legal team from the trial. The lawyer Víctor Fernández denounces the actions of the tribunal as illegal and in need of being annulled.

In front of the Supreme Court building they left a sign saying: "Today, the victims are not present, they are looking for real justice."

Amnesty International continues to cover the Berta Cáceres trial expressing its concerns that Honduras is violating the rights of Berta's family: "The Court's decision to impose representation by the Public Prosecutor's Office on the victims is a breach of due process guarantees and therefore impacts on victims' right to access to justice, truth and reparation. Victims' representation cannot be put in the hands of an institution that they have repeatedly said is responsible for violating their rights."

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/24conf-prensa/>

https://copinh.org/2018/10/audio-caso-berta-caceres_/

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/23/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/asi-amanece-la-corte-suprema-de-justicia-luego-de-tres-dias-de-iniciado-el-juicio-en-la-causa-berta-caceres-sin-presencia-de-las-victima/>

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/10/tribunal-vulnera-derechos-de-la-familia-de-berta-caceres/>

The first part of the migrant caravan arrived in Huixtla, Mexico yesterday. The IACHR emitted a press release expressing its concerns about the situation of the migrant caravan and demanding the regional governments to adopt measures to protect them and respect their human rights. Radio Progreso put together a short insightful article about why people leave Honduras.

Fabricio Estrada adds another explanation from the perspective of an individual facing hunger and insecurity.

The JOH regime promised new jobs for returning migrants. The only caveat, this already happened during the last caravan in April without any results.

<https://confidencialhn.com/caravana-de-migrantes-hondurenos-descansa-en-el-municipio-de-huixtla/>

<https://tiempo.hn/nuevos-detalles-de-la-caravana-de-migrantes-en-huixtla-estados-unidos-ataca-de-nuevo/>

<https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/prensa/comunicados/2018/225.asp>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/por-que-se-van/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/23/se-preguntan-como-se-organiza-el-exodo-hondureno-quien-esta-detras/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1227246-410/presidente-de-honduras-anuncia-la-creaci%C3%B3n-inmediata-de-5500-empleos>

Hondurans in support with their fleeing brothers and sisters took to the streets in the Caravan for Dignity following a call by the Alignment against Continuity. They started a four-days march towards the capital, planning to arrive there on October 26. Padre Melo summarizes their goal as follows: "We will be in Tegucigalpa this Friday, in this journey led by the Alignment, which is a nonpartisan instance of articulation of the Honduran social movement, which was born to fight against the continuity of the neoliberal model producing exclusion and violence, and against the continuity of the authoritarian and illegal project of Juan Orlando Hernández."

There was also a pro-government protest pretending everything is well in the country and that "no good Honduran would disparage against his country".

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/arranca-caravana-interna-en-solidaridad-con-migrantes-hondurenos-y-hondurenas/>

<https://tiempo.hn/caravana-de-la-dignidad-parte-hacia-casa-presidencial/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-de-la-dignidad-desde-el-norte-a-tegucigalpa-en-solidaridad-con-inmigrantes-hondurenos.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/oficialismo-y-opositores-inician-marchas-en-honduras/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/nacionalistas-marchan-bajo-el-lema-tu-norte-esta-aqui-y-respaldan-a-hernandez.html>

Sandra Cuffe reports on the measures taken by the regional governments to stop Honduran migrants and who they may violate international law. She cites Amnesty International researcher Madeleine Penman: "This blocking of the border between Honduras and Guatemala is completely unprecedented and violates international law."

ConfidencialHN reports that the border was reopened against yesterday.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/crackdown-honduran-migrant-caravan-international-law-181023194538522.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/reanudan-operaciones-en-aduana-hondurena-de-agua-caliente/>

Expediente Público reports from inside a Whatsapp group by Honduran migrants to counteract the narrative spun by the JOH regime and the

Trump administration that the migrant caravan was organized with political ends.

ConexiHn reports on the situation of journalist Bartolo Fuentes who was criminalized and deported from Guatemala after a defamatory campaign by the JOH regime accusing him of having organized the caravan. After his return to Honduras, he filed a complaint against the Honduran government.

<http://expedientepublico.org/index.php/derechos-humanos/111-un-dia-en-el-whatsapp-de-los-migrantes-hondurenos>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/842-el-periodista-que-puso-en-el-ojo-del-mundo-al-trianguulo-norte>

US representatives continue to criminalize the migrants and make outlandish claims regarding the origin of the caravan. Both the outgoing Ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley, and Vice-President Mike Pence claim, of course without presenting any evidence, that Venezuelan (and maybe Cuban) money organized the caravan to undermine the "US-friendly gov't of (President Juan Orlando) Hernandez".

The main corporate media outlets jumped on this news.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-immigration-caravan/second-migrant-caravan-in-guatemala-heads-toward-mexico-idUSKCN1MX2JP>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/vicepresidente-pence-afirma-que-caravana-es-financiada-por-venezuela.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/politicos-dictadores-buscan-socavar-el-gobierno.html>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1227374-410/nikki-haley-eeuu-caravana-migrantes-hondure%C3%B1os-venezuela-cuba-embajada>

A new documentary, Mutu, investigates the situation of Garífuna women defending their land.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/mutu-un-documental-que-revela-lucha-de-mujeres-por-su-territorio/>

Six young men, two of them minors, were arrested by the Military Police on October 12. They now accuse them that they were falsely portrayed as gang members.

<https://tiempo.hn/jovenes-capturados-con-chalecos-de-la-dpi/>

El Heraldo reports that the Supreme Audit Tribunal (TSC) has failed so far this year to answer to any of the requests by the MP regarding illicit enrichment by former public officials and members of the National Police.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1227400-466/tsc-no-ha-enviado-expedientes-de-enriquecimiento-al-ministerio-p%C3%BAblico-en-10>

An expert delegation by the OAS arrived in Honduras yesterday. They will work out proposals for electoral reforms.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1227394-466/delegados-de-la-organizaci%C3%B3n-de-estados-americanos-llegan-este-mi%C3%A9rcoles-a-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/22/derechos-humanos-y-medio-ambiente/>

24/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs; Political Prisoners; Caravan - Guatemala, Solidarity; Indigenous Peoples; IACtHR; Journalists; FoE; Corruption - Laws; Congress; and Exodus

COPINH and Berta's family held a press conference yesterday denouncing the judicial farse and injustice in the Berta Cáceres case.

In the declaration read during the press conference, they declared their rebellion against this farce and injustice. "If the Sentencing Court presided by Esther Carolina Flores thinks that they can quiet or stop our search for justice, they are mistaken. We will not rest until all of the masterminds of the assassination of Berta Cáceres and attempted assassination of Gustavo Castro have been punished. The international community should not accept the legitimacy of this miscarriage of justice. The Honduran state will have to answer internationally for its failures. The thirst for justice is enormous, their illegal rulings will not quench it."

28 civil society organizations publicly denounce recent decisions by a Honduran trial court that limit the victims' rights to participate in the trial. The organizations "urge the Honduran judiciary to ensure full representation of the victim's family and COPINH in the trial process. We urge the Public Ministry to ensure an independent, impartial, and transparent process that addresses the intellectual as well as material authors of this terrible crime and ensures justice for Berta."

VIDEO of the press conference:

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/video-conferencia-de-prensa-24-oct-nos-declaramos-en-rebeldia-contra-la-farsa-y-la-injusticia/>

PHOTOS:

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/fotos-conferencia-de-prensa-24-de-octubre-2018/>

EN:

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/we-declare-our-rebellion-against-the-farce-and-injustice/>

ES:

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/nos-declaramos-en-rebeldia-contra-la-farsa-y-la-injusticia/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/component/k2/item/2315-familia-de-berta-caceres-copinh-y-abogados-desconocen-actuaciones-de-tribunal-de-sentencia-por-ilegales>

http://lawg.org/component/content/article/98/2122#new_tab

The recent months we have seen another increase in attacks against HRDs, especially surrounding extractive industry projects (see also last month's report by the Honduras Forum Switzerland). This situation caused a reaction in the US. "Senator Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) and Representative Jan Schakowsky (IL-09) today led a letter with 50 of their Senate and House colleagues highlighting the growing threats against human rights defenders, journalists, and international human rights observers in Honduras. The lawmakers cite death threats to journalists and human rights groups, expulsions of Americans and other non-Hondurans documenting human rights violations, and intimidation campaigns against members of civil society as grave concerns around Honduras's human rights record. In their letter, the Senator Markey, Congresswoman Schakowsky, and the lawmakers call on the Trump administration to request the Honduran government immediately investigate these attacks, direct the State Department to reassess its certification of human rights conditions in Honduras, investigate threats against Americans, and publicly express concern about these attacks."

EN:

<https://schakowsky.house.gov/press-releases/representative-schakowsky-and-senator-markey-lead-call-for-holding-honduran-government-accountable-for-human-rights/>

ES:

<https://schakowsky.house.gov/press-releases/el-senador-markey-y-la-representante-schakowsky-lideran-un-llamado-a-exigir-que-responsabilizan-el-gobierno-de-honduras-por-la-situacion-de-derechos-humanos/>

LETTER:

<https://www.markey.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Honduras%20Human%20Rights%20Letters.pdf>

A new urgent action has been called to demand the release of the political prisoners in Honduras.

<https://afgj.salsalabs.org/takeactiontofreehonduranpoliticalprisoners/index.html>

Latin America Daily Briefing has a great overview of the press reports on the migrant caravan. It also serves in counteracting the narrative by the JOH regime and the Trump administration by looking at the root causes. A new article by ConexiHon does the same thing, focusing on poverty, unemployment, corruption and institutional weaknesses including helpful statistics.

According to UNICEF, more than 2300 children are part of the caravan in Mexico.

A new report by Coiprodén highlights that in the last 4.5 years, 42'268 Honduran minors have been deported, most of them from Mexico.

In a new press release, CEJIL writes: "Migrating to seek refuge or asylum is not a crime and States must comply with their international obligations to guarantee the rights of people in transit and when they arrive to their destination, as well as ensure standards of living to prevent migration."

<https://latinamericadailybriefing.blogspot.com/2018/10/caravan-fueled-by-violence-poverty-not.html>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/migrantes/847-una-honduras-partida-en-dos-las-causas-de-la-migracion>

<http://elpulso.hn/unicef-mas-de-2-300-menores-en-caravana-antes-que-migrantes-son-ninos/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3041-honduras-mas-de-42-mil-menores-deportados-ultimos-cinco-anos>

<https://www.cejil.org/en/migrant-caravan-most-recent-chapter-worsening-narrative>

Sandra Cuffe reports on the support and solidarity with the Honduran migrants by Guatemalan.

According to Criterio, there are some 2000 migrants as part of a second caravan in Guatemala on their way to Mexico.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-caravan-met-outpouring-support-guatemala-181024203710045.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/24/otra-multitud-de-migrantes-hondurenos-se-encamina-a-la-frontera-de-mexico/>

In solidarity with their migrating brothers and sisters, a caravan of dignity started to cross Honduras in direction of Tegucigalpa on Tuesday. The Alignment against Continuity, who called for it, held a press conference yesterday.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/caravana-de-la-dignidad/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-de-la-dignidad-culmina-segundo-dia-de-marcha-en-siguetepeque.html>

DPLF has launched an updated manual on the defense of the rights of indigenous peoples.

<http://www.dplf.org/es/resources/manual-para-defender-los-derechos-de-los-pueblos-indigenas-y-tribales>

The Monitoring Group of the Compliance with IACtHR Sentences held a public forum in Tegucigalpa yesterday. The participants discuss the challenges and improvements made in investigation cases of human rights violations in Honduras.

Defensores en Línea published the contribution by COFADEH's general coordinator Bertha Oliva.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/24/delitos-de-violacion-de-derechos-humanos-no-son-prioridad-de-investigacion-en-honduras/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-sometimiento-de-la-investigacion-criminal-al-poder-politico-principal-obstaculo-en-el-pasado-y-en-el-presente/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/honduras-incumple-sentencias-de-la-corte-interamericana-derechos-humanos.html>

C-Libre denounces a recent wave of threats and insults against women journalists on Facebook.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/intimidacion/918-mujeres-periodistas-victimas-de-ataques-en-facebookmujeres-periodistas-victimas-de-ataques-en-facebook>

C-Libre reports on how public officials such as JOH or the US Chargé d'Affaires blocked journalists and opposition politicians on Twitter because they reported on the migrant caravan. C-Libre cites the Mexican organization Article 19 which considers blocking by public officials on Twitter as an act of censorship.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/censura/917-censura-por-bloqueo-de-cuentas-oficiales-de-funcionarios-en-twitter>

The president of the Journalists Association Honduras (CPH), Dagoberto Rodríguez, denounces a recent bill by Denis Castro Bobadilla which claims to support the principle of innocence but may very well further protect corrupt officials.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3043-nueva-mordaza-a-periodistas-para-proteger-peces-gordos-advierte-cph>

According to Congress' secretary Tomás Zambrano, only 90 out of 800 bills have been approved.

<https://confidencialhn.com/apenas-90-de-800-iniciativas-de-ley-han-sido-dictaminadas-por-el-parlamento-de-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/24/el-exodo/>

25/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs; Caravan - Defamation, Solidarity, US; IACtHR; Campesinx; Militarization; Political Opposition; ALBA; National Dialogue - Electoral Reforms; National Party; Infrastructure; BID; and Dictator or Errand-Boy?

"The Legal Observer Mission that is observing the trial for the assassination of human rights defender Berta Cáceres expresses its serious concern about the recent exclusion from the case of the victims' private attorneys. This action compromises the principles of a fair and impartial trial, and is the latest in a series of decisions in the case that create obstacles to access for justice to the victims. The Mission has been observing the trial since August 31."

The legal representatives of COPINH and Berta's family expressed their will to continue: "We will not abandon the cause of Berta Cáceres".

A protest denouncing the actions of the tribunal was held yesterday outside the Supreme Court.

Ignoring the national and international protest, the trial continued yesterday afternoon.

EN:

<https://www.fidh.org/en/issues/human-rights-defenders/honduras-serious-irregularities-create-obstacles-to-truth-and-justice>

ES:

<https://www.fidh.org/es/region/americas/honduras/honduras-graves-irregularidades-obstaculizan-verdad-y-justicia-en>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/850-excluir-a-la-defensa-privada-en-causa-berta-caceres-es-para-acallar-victimas>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/849-no-abandonamos-la-causa-aclara-defensa-privada-en-caso-berta-caceres>

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/video-25-oct-frente-corte-suprema/>

<https://tiempo.hn/ministerio-publico-formaliza-acusacion-contr-a-acusados-en-el-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

The card sent by 50 US Senators and Congresswo/men to President Trump about the situation of HRDs in Honduras (see yesterday) has so far been ignored by the corporate media outlets in Honduras. Only El Tiempo reported on it.

<https://tiempo.hn/senadores-estadounidenses-envian-carta-a-trump-y-denuncian-represion-de-gobierno-hondureno/>

Representatives of Vía Campesina Central America met for two days in Honduras. Their gathering ended with a joint declaration which included ten demands, e.g. the free movements of campesino families to the US fleeing poverty and violence or the approval by the UN Human Rights Council of the Declaration on the Rights of Peasant Farmers.

See Attachment

CEJIL informs about Wednesday's forum on the challenges to investigate human rights violations in Honduras (see also yesterday).

<https://www.cejil.org/es/honduras-mesa-seguimiento-denuncia-obstaculos-investigacion-violaciones-derechos-humanos>

The migrant caravan is currently on its way to Oaxaca. Radio Progreso highlights seven points revealed by the migrant caravan, e.g. the farce that is the JOH government and the cynicism of the US government.

In Mexico, the Honduran migrants shared a statement which independent Mexican media outlets highlighting the need to "explain to civil society what the real situation of the migrants is, the historical and socio-economic context that forces them to be exiled".

In Honduras, CONADEH met with the UNHCR, the Red Cross and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

<https://www.laprensa.hn/mundo/1227971-410/caravana-migrantes-oaxaca-mexico-hondure%C3%B1os-donald-trump-viaje-retorno>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/lo-que-desnudan-los-migrantes-25-octubre-2018/>

<https://avispa.org/en-voz-de-los-migrantes-para-entender-como-se-organizo-la-gran-travesia-hacia-eeuu/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/conadeh-plantea-necesidades-humanitarias-y-proteccion-de-migrantes/>

In an interview with CNN, JOH repeats the defamatory attacks against the migrant caravan, presenting it as a political project. Even worse, he announced that legal actions against the supposed organizers.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1228022-410/honduras-judicializara-responsables-enganar-migrantes-caravana>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on the Caravan of Dignity which is expected to arrive in Tegucigalpa today.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2316-la-caravana-que-demanda-la-expulsion-de-joh>

The New York Times explains how the Honduran migrant caravan became a Trump election strategy.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/24/world/americas/migrant-caravan-trump.html>

Bertha Oliva denounces the deleterious effects of militarization on human rights. She looks back at a comment she published in 2003 and finds that the situation has not improved.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/el-impacto-del-militarismo-sobre-los-derechos-humanos/>

Criterio spoke with the Mexican political activist Carlos Figueroa Ibarra about the victory by Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) and what the Honduran opposition could learn from it.

According to the political analyst Raúl Pineda, the JOH regime only survives because of the division and weakness of the political opposition.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/25/oposicion-de-honduras-puede-construir-alianzas-similares-a-las-que-llevaron-al-triunfo-a-amlo/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/por-mas-que-el-gobierno-controle-los-medios-corporativos-no-cambiara-la-realidad-analista/>

The Meso American ALBA Movements Forum started in Tegucigalpa yesterday. It reunites social movements from eight Latin American countries to "discuss approaches to the different aspects that constitute the social structures of each country".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3047-arranco-el-foro-mesoamericano-del-movimiento-social-hondureno>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/10/25/un-movimiento-social-continental-se-articula-en-foro-mesoamericano-alba-movimientos/>

The Liberal Party plans to return to the National Dialogue.

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/le-dijimos-a-la-mision-de-la-oea-que-no-reglamentaremos-la-reeleccion-mel-zelaya.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/tenemos-el-compromiso-de-avanzar-en-reformas-para-un-proceso-electoral-tranquilo-igor-garafulic.html>

This week, an expert mission by the OAS arrived in Honduras. They will present a proposal for electoral reforms by December. Libre reiterates that they won't accept a legalization of the presidential reelection without a popular consultation.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3044-oea-entregara-propuesta-de-reformas-electorales-en-diciembre>

<https://confidencialhn.com/libre-participara-en-reformas-electorales-pero-no-en-reglamentar-la-reeleccion/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/le-dijimos-a-la-mision-de-la-oea-que-no-reglamentaremos-la-reeleccion-mel-zelaya.html>

The National Party announced that it will re-open its headquarter. It was seized as part of an anti-corruption investigation in August.

<https://confidencialhn.com/65733-2/>

<https://tiempo.hn/devuelven-sede-del-partido-nacional/>

The JOH regime announced more investment in road infrastructure which "will generate at least 40'000 jobs per year"...

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1227890-410/gobierno-honduras-creara-40-mil-trabajos-anuales-infraestructura-vial>

Honduras signed another agreement with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). This time it is a \$90 million loan to improve the logistic sector.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/bid-otorga-a-honduras-90-millones-de-dolares-para-reformas-en-sector-transporte.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/25/dictador-o-mandadero/>

26/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; HRDs; LGBTI; Caravan - Solidarity, US, JOH; Militarization; Mining; Corruption - Judicial Power; Forensic Medicine; Congress - Electoral Reforms; and Governing with Lies

Instead of reporting against the myriad of irregularities in the Berta Cáceres trial, Proceso Digital chooses to denigrate COPINH for holding a protest outside the Supreme Court.

The further discredited trial will continue on Monday at 1.30pm.

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/copines-manchan-paredes-de-la-corte-suprema-de-justicia.html>

<https://twitter.com/PjdeHonduras/status/1055962156934541313>

The Guardian picked up the letter by 50 members of Congress denouncing the situation of HRDs in Honduras and the role of the US. Corporate media outlets in Honduras still have not covered it.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/oct/26/honduras-us-congress-human-rights-trump>

It is not directly related to Honduras, but still an information worthwhile sharing. Myrl Beam, assistant professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, wrote an interesting book 'Gay Inc: The Nonprofitization of Queer Politics' "about how a radically contrarian, intersectional and anti-authoritarian movement took a conservative turn in the past three decades, as LGBTQ organizations began to seek out wealthy donors who would support them."

<https://tinyspark.org/podcasts/how-nonprofits-made-the-lgbt-movement-straight/>

El Pulso reports on the arrest of the campesino leader Santos Torres Ruiz. He belongs to the Campesino Movement Gregorio Chávez and he is being criminalized by the JOH regime and Dinant Corporation.

<http://elpulso.hn/dpi-da-captura-a-dirigente-campesino-en-el-aguan/>

In her ongoing coverage of the migrant caravan, Sandra Cuffe reports on the determination by the migrants to continue amidst the newest threats from Trump. "There is no work in Honduras, and the insecurity and violence is overwhelming, according to Nunez. He knows it is not going to be easy to cross the one border left on their journey, but he, like many in the caravan, feel they have no other choice, even as US President Donald Trump ramps up his threats against the group."

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-caravan-remains-determined-renewed-trump-threats-181026174836160.html>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/caravana-avanza-con-esperanzas-intactas-a-pesar-de-amenazas-del-gobierno-de-trump/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-migrante-deja-chiapas-e-ingresa-a-oaxaca.html>

The Caravan of Dignity arrived in Tegucigalpa yesterday after crossing Honduras in solidarity with the migrating Hondurans and in protest against the JOH regime.

Criterio reports on state violence against its participants using tear gas to disperse peacefully protesting people, including children.

In a press release, the Alignment against the Reelection (CCC) expressed their solidarity not just with the migrants but also with the Guatemalan and Mexican people showing compassion and generosity to their Central American brothers and sisters.

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-de-la-dignidad-llega-a-tegucigalpa.html>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/26/militares-y-policias-reprimen-manifestacion-pacifica-que-exigia-la-salida-de-juan-hernandez/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/8302-2/>

In the same press release, the CCC denounces US policy. "In contrast to the solidarity of the peoples, we repudiate the decision of the empire that not only supports the illegality and corruption of the regime of Juan Orlando Hernández, but is ready and determined to receive our compatriots with military, bullets, tanks and repressions, leaving in evidence the carnivorous and mortal identity of the imperial policies towards our people."

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/8302-2/>

Vice turns its attention to the root causes of the migrant caravan and finds that "[m]igrants are leaving not only because they fear gang violence, but because they are terrified of the brutal government."

JOH continues his daily attack on the caravan and the people he wrongly holds responsible for organizing it.

He announced more details on the investigation against them, apparently an inter-institutional task force will be set up for this. This represents a further escalation of the situation.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/yw98nm/inside-the-corruption-and-repression-forcing-hondurans-to-leave-the-us

<http://www.proceso.hn/nacionales/9-nacionales/hernandez-dice-grupos-radicales-son-los-promotores-de-la-caravana-a-eeuu.html>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/26/honduras-creara-fuerza-internacional-que-investigue-organizadores-de-caravana-migrante/>

Defensores en Línea follows with a second article on the militarization of Honduras (see also yesterday). Juan Almendáres Bonilla presented at a roundtable on Militarization and Human Rights in which he presented the role of the Armed Forces throughout Honduras' history, especially in promoting an extractive economic model.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/las-ffaa-de-honduras-han-sido-los-guarda-espaldas-de-las-multinacionales-juan-almendares-bonilla/>

DPLF and Oxfam-Mexico published a report on FPIC in Mexico which includes a comparative analysis including Honduras.

<http://www.dplf.org/en/resources/implementation-free-prior-and-informed-consent-and-consultation-comparative-experiences>

ConfidencialHN reports on the newest attempt by the legal team of the sentenced former vice-president of the Judiciary Council, Teodoro Bonilla, to get him out of prison.

<https://confidencialhn.com/desestiman-preliberacion-de-exconcejal-condenado-por-trafico-de-influencias/>

ConfidencialHN reports on worrisome new events at the MP to get rid of the head of forensic medicine, Julissa Villanueva.

<https://confidencialhn.com/revelan-trama-para-quitar-funciones-y-despedir-a-jefa-forense-julissa-villanueva/>

In her newest installment of the Parliamentary Chronicles, Nincy Perdomo focuses on the new dynamic set off by the arrival of a OAS expert commission to discuss electoral reforms (see also previous e-mails).

<http://elpulso.hn/cp-2325-10-2018/>

The OAS delegation met yesterday with the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ), the Clean Politics Unit as well as the intervention committee of the RNP.

<http://radiohrn.hn/2018/10/26/asj-analiza-con-la-mision-de-la-oea-cuatro-puntos-fundamentales-para-la-transformacion-del-sistema-electoral/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1228300-466/mision-de-la-oea-indaga-viabilidad-de-reformas-electorales-honduras>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/sindrome-adamico-de-la-mitocracia-26-octubre-2018/>

27/10/18

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Mining - Los Pinares; Military Police; Caravan - Defamation, Repression, Proposal; Tasa de Seguridad; National Dialogue; Poverty; Militarization; and the Human Faces of the Migrants

El Pulso spoke with OFRANEH's general coordinator Miriam Miranda about the newest defamatory attacks and the criminalization of HRDs. She believes that it is no coincidence that this newest wave started just shortly before the Berta Cáceres trial.

<http://elpulso.hn/miriam-miranda-ofraneh-que-no-empiece-esa-empresa-privada-a-decir-que-somos-vandalos-porque-les-iniciamos-un-boicot/>

After months of defamatory attacks and the criminalization of its participants, state security forces violently evicted the peaceful protest camp against a mining project by Inversiones Los Pinares in Guapinol near Tocoa, Colón. Local members of the protest denounce that pregnant women and teenagers were beaten and that children fainted. At least someone was arrested and they denounce that the police did not tell them to which station he was taken.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fuerza-publica-reprime-a-pobladores-de-comunidad-por-danos-de-minera/>

<https://tiempo.hn/con-bombas-lacrimogenas-y-golpes-desalojo-la-policia-a-hondurenos-del-campamento-guapinol-colon/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/mas-noticias/32-m%C3%A1s-noticias/desalojan-a-manifestantes-en-empresa-minera-en-tocoa-colon.html>

The Military Police sprayed a family van with bullets hurting three children inside the car. The family was on its way to the hospital to seek medical attention for their 14-year old daughter when they suddenly were persecuted and shot at. The police reacted with a press release failing to explain why they followed and shot at the family mentioning solely that there was a confrontation with a gang and the Military Police. This took place last Thursday evening and the police announced to investigate it.

According to ConfidencialHN, three police members were arrested

yesterday morning.

<https://tiempo.hn/militares-hermanitos-en-la-rivera-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/27/policia-nacional-confirma-que-policia-militar-disparo-contra-tres-menores-de-edad/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/encarcelan-policias-senalados-de-acribillar-familia-en-san-pedro-sula/>

The migrant caravan continued its journey yesterday after they had been blocked by the Mexican police for two hours.

They arrived in San Pedro Tapanatepec, Oaxaca.

A day before, the outgoing Mexican president Peña Nieto presented the plan "Estas en tu casa" (You are at home) which intends to offer temporary employment and education to the migrants. But it would also mean that they would not continue their journey to the US and stay in Mexico's south, i.e. in its poorest region.

Most rejected the offer.

Meanwhile in Honduras, a new group started its journey in Catacamas.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-caravan-pushes-mexican-police-standoff-181027131543744.html>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/caravana-de-migrantes-llega-a-estado-mexicano-de-oaxaca-tras-bloqueo-policial.html>

<http://elpulso.hn/presidente-pena-nieto-presenta-plan-de-empleo-temporal-y-educacion-para-migrantes-centroamericanos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/27/caravana-de-migrantes-rechaza-propuesta-de-pena-nieto/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/minisitios/hondurenosenelmundo/1228533-471/caravana-migrante-en-m%C3%A9xico-hay-1200-solicitudes-de-refugio-en-proceso>

<https://confidencialhn.com/parta-otro-grupo-de-hondurenos-desde-catacamas-rumbo-a-ee-uu1/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/nueva-caravana-emprende-ruta-migratoria-desde-catacamas-olancho.html>

Journalist and human rights defender Bartolo Fuentes denounces that JOH wants to have him arrested to present him to Trump as the man behind the migrant caravan.

CONADEH announced to offer him and his family protection.

<https://tiempo.hn/bartolo-fuentes-joh-me-quiere-meter-presos/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/27/joh-me-quiere-meter-presos-para-agradar-a-trump-bartolo-fuentes/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/conadeh-brinda-proteccion-a-periodista-bartolo-fuentes-y-su-familia.html>

Several Honduran news outlets and human rights organization report on and denounce Friday's repression against the Caravan for Dignity (see also yesterday).

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3050-mas-bombas-gases-y-tolete-contra-hondurenos-en-marco-de-crisis-humanitaria>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/26/militares-y-policias-lanzas-gases-en-centro-comercial-afectando-a-los-visitantes/>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/criminalizacion-de-la-protesta-publica/920-represion-en-honduras-a-manifestaciones-solidarias-con-caravana-de-migrantes>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/la-dignidad-del-pueblo-se-antepone-a-los-intereses-del-regimen-hondureno/>

Highlighting the immense inequality in Honduras, the Honduran author Julio Escoto proposes that its rich elite create a \$100 million emergency fund to promote education and jobs and that the fund were administrated by notable public figures as Padre Melo. Knowing that this seems rather utopian, he follows his proposal with a warning: "It would be a noble gesture but equally serve as a prevention. The desperate Honduran has already started to explore alternatives, at the moment just abroad, looking for better external conditions, but the next time may very well be inward, an implosion whose effects are not hard to imagine but rather hurt to imagine."

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/avance/3049-honduras-una-propuesta>

The security tax 'tasa de seguridad' will have gathered more than 2 billion Lempiras by the end of 2018. More than 60% of it have flown directly to the National Police, the Armed Forces and the Military Police.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1228500-466/m%C3%A1s-de-2000-millones-de-lempiras-deja-tasa-de-seguridad-en-lo>

UN representative Igor Garafulci stresses the importance of collaboration between Congress and the representatives of the National Dialogue for the coming round of the dialogue which will start tomorrow.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1228501-466/onu-pidi%C3%B3-sinton%C3%ADa-entre-congreso-nacional-y-la-mesa-de-di%C3%A1logo>

Criterio uncovers a new fee making poor Hondurans suffer. the National Banks and Securities Commission (CNBS) allowed a \$1 dollar fee for every bank withdrawal with a credit or debit card.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/27/cnbs-autoriza-nuevo-trancazo-en-el-uso-tarjetas-de-credito-o-debito/>

Defensores en Línea published additional content on Friday's talk about militarization which was part of the three-day Alba Movements Forum taking place in Tegucigalpa.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/eeuu-la-militarizacion-en-el-triangulo-norte-y-los-desplazamientos-forzados/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/criminalizacion-y-militarismo-en-honduras-entre-los-temas-de-foro-mesoamericano/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/rostros-de-los-migrantes-27-octubre-2018/>

28/10/18

Honduras Daily: Mining - Los Pinares; Caravan; Public Health; ALBA; Penitentiary System; National Police; Electoral Reforms; and the National Dialogue;

After months of peaceful resistance, state security forces violently evicted a local protest camp in Guapinol on Saturday (see yesterday's e-mail). COPINH denounces that after the eviction, heavily armed men belonging to the mine reappeared in the community spreading fear. The mine in question belongs to Lenir Pérez and four 5 years ago, in Nueva Esperanza, Atlántida, he also used armed men to spread fear trying to force through a mining project of his. The latter failed after national and international accompaniment of the local people. OFRANEH highlights that the protest in Guapinol takes place in an important national park where water sources for 14 communities are located. Instead of promoting its protection and the right of the local inhabitants, the JOH regime rather sends its forces to repress while state representatives denigrate the protest as foreign sponsored.

<https://www.facebook.com/copinh.intibuca/posts/2171726679767766>

<https://ofraneh.wordpress.com/2018/10/28/guapinol-desalojo-violento-y-destruccion-de-areas-protegida/>

A young Honduran man from Tegucigalpa, Henry Adalid Díaz Reyes, traveling with the second caravan that took off in Honduras last week died at the Mexican border. According to media reports, the Mexican police used rubber bullets to repress migrants trying to cross the border. Díaz Reyes died when a bullet hit his head.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/28/hondureno-migrante-muere-en-frontera-entre-guatemala-y-mexico-tras-represion-policial/>

<https://tiempo.hn/hondureno-muere-tras-enfrentamiento-en-frontera-de-guatemala-con-mexico/>

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/28/confirman-la-muerte-de-un-migrante-hondureno-en-guatemala-durante-disturbios/>

The president of the Medical Association of Honduras (CMH), Suyapa Figueroa, denounces that the JOH regime pledged to privatize medical services instead of attending the root problems from which the Honduran public health system suffers.

<http://radiohrn.hn/2018/10/28/sistema-sanitario-figueroa-el-gobierno-esta-empecinado-en-privatizar-hasta-los-suenos-de-los-h/>

The Alba Movements forum bringing together 425 people from 7 countries came to a close on Saturday. Defensores en Línea published the declaration presented by the forum.

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/declaracion-de-tegucigalpa-foro-mesoamericano/>

Two inmates escaped from the prison in El Porvenir, Atlántida.

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2018/10/28/se-fugan-dos-reos-de-centro-penal-de-el-porvenir/>

El Heraldo reports that there are some 700 open complaints by purged members of the police.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1228752-466/casi-700-demandas-de-polic%C3%ADas-depurados-se-resuelven-en-los-juzgados>

Some weeks ago, it was made public that Honduras has to pay some \$250'000 for OAS support regarding electoral reforms. Antonio Rivera Callejas announced yesterday that they will try to recuperate this money.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1228747-466/congreso-nacional-pag%C3%B3-m%C3%A1s-de-seis-millones-de-lempiras-a-oea-por>

<https://tiempo.hn/reformas-electorales-en-honduras-2/>

Two months, some 40 meetings and not much to show for, that is the National Dialogue in Honduras.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1228764-466/di%C3%A1logo-nacional-cumple-este-lunes-dos-meses-y-a%C3%BAn-no-hay-acuerdo>

29/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Caravan - Solidarity, Defamation, US; Forced Displacement; Corruption - Catholic Church; Mining; Armed Forces; Journalists; Political Opposition; National Police; and Happy Birthday

The Meso-American Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders emitted a press release in solidarity with Berta's family and COPINH while also denouncing the judicial farce and impunity in the Berta Cáceres trial.

El Heraldo reports that one of the accused confirmed that 500'00 Lemprias were payed for the assassination of Berta.

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/im-solidaridad/>

<https://copinh.org/2018/10/26planton/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1229058-466/testigo-hunde-a-acusado-en-caso-berta>

Just a day after the death of a Honduran migrant at the hand of Mexican border agents (see 1. link and yesterday), another Honduran almost died on the way to the US. ConfidencialhHN first reported that he tried to cross the Suchiate river between Guatemala and Mexico when he drowned. But later, other media outlets informed that the man was rescued. Avispa Midia started a series on the push factors driving Hondurans to migrate. "The following texts are an attempt to frame this exodus in the context to which it belongs, since migrants not only need solidarity and support, but also respect and dignity for their past, present and future struggles."

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-killed-mexican-border-crackdown-migrant-caravan-181029130957107.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/muere-otro-hondureno-cuando-pretendia-cruzar-el-rio-que-separa-guatemala-de-mexico/>

<https://tiempo.hn/descartan-muerte-de-hondureno-en-rio-suchiate-frontera-guatemala-con-mexico/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/muere-ahogado-migrante-hondureno-segun-prensa-guatemalteca.html>

<https://avispa.org/violencia-despojo-hambre-represion-honduras-y-las-razones-del-exodo-migrante-parte-1/>

Both El Pulso (with a lot of images) and ConexiHon published additional articles on the Caravan of Dignity which took place for four days last week in Honduras in solidarity with the Honduran migrants.

<http://elpulso.hn/de-solidaridad-caravanas-y-protestas/>

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/migrantes/852-durante-cuatro-dias-hondurenos-caminaron-en-solidaridad-con-los-migrantes>

The deputy Foreign Secretary Nelly Jerez continues to present the migrant caravan as a political mobilization.

<https://confidencialhn.com/segun-vicecanciller-hondurena-exodo-de-personas-es-injusto-porque-es-usado-con-fines-politicos/>

In an OpEd for the New York Times, the former Foreign Minister of Mexico and current board member of Human Rights Watch Jorge G. Castañeda writes that "the Trump administration conditioned its acceptance of a diluted new NAFTA on Mexico's acceptance of more cooperation, or complicity, with the United States, for keeping Central Americans, be they refugees, economic migrants, or a combination of both, from reaching the United States border."

Trump also continues to threaten the migrant caravan with the US Military likening them to an invasion. Santiago Navarro F highlights in Avispa Midia that is rather the US who has invaded Honduras with its companies and army.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/27/opinion/mexico-caravan-trump-dirty-work.html>

<https://avispa.org/trump-a-la-caravana-migrante-esta-es-una-invasion-de-nuestro-pais-y-nuestros-militares-te-estan-esperando/>

Honduras signed an agreement with the IACHR and the UNHCR to improve state responses to forced displacement.

<https://confidencialhn.com/poder-judicial-firma-carta-de-entendimiento-con-la-cidh-y-acnur/>

The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) presented new corruption cases in Honduras' public health system. Criterio and El Libertador report that 215 current and former State functionaries are involved and that the sum in question is at least 44 million Lempiras.

Proceso Digital reports that there is one congressman at the center of the new corruption cases, but the CNA won't give either name nor party. Back in February, the CNA had already reported on corruption in the public health system which involved the Nationalist congressman Rolando Dubón Bueso.

The CNA criticizes that they cannot reveal the name of the person due to a bill recently approved in Congress which aims to protect corrupt officials.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/29/un-funcionario-del-congreso-nacional-esta-tras-redes-de-corrupcion-en-salud-cna/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3052-honduras-mas-de-44-millones-desfalcados-en-salud-denuncia-cna>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/un-diputado-en-el-centro-de-casos-de-corrupcion-en-salud-cna.html>

<https://tiempo.hn/fruto-de-ley-bobadilla-cna-no-pudo-revelar-nombre-de-diputado/>

ConfidencialHN reports that the former Assistant Bishop of Tegucigalpa, Juan José Pineda, accessed some 30 million Lempiras from the 'tasa de seguridad' without much accountability.

<https://confidencialhn.com/exobispo-capitalino-jamas-justifico-en-que-gasto-30-millones-que-le-dio-el-tason/>

El Pulso offered OpEps to MADJ's Víctor Fernández, OFRANEH's Miriam Miranda and ASONOG's Carlos Padilla as well as three representatives of the JOH regime and the business lobby to comment on the situation around extractive industry projects. The three last pieces what can be expected, more defamatory attacks against HRDs (e.g. them being foreign agents) or negating that there is a problem.

<http://elpulso.hn/victor-fernandez-mad-j-el-modelo-de-desarrollo-de-la-empresa-privada-es-el-que-ha-provocado-el-70-de-personas-pobres-en-honduras/>

<http://elpulso.hn/miriam-miranda-ofraneh-que-no-empiece-esa-empresa-privada-a-decir-que-somos-vandalos-porque-les-iniciamos-un-boicot/>

<http://elpulso.hn/carlos-padilla-asonog-el-problema-de-la-mineria-no-se-acabara-mientras-no-se-creen-mecanismos-de-participacion-real-de-la-ciudadania/>

<http://elpulso.hn/sofia-aguilar-asociacion-de-empresas-mineras-a-mineria-siempre-es-vista-de-forma-negativa-pero-hay-mas-cosas-positivas-que-negativas/>

<http://elpulso.hn/elsia-paz-asociacion-de-energia-renovable-nosotros-hacemos-un-llamado-a-la-paz/>

<http://elpulso.hn/fernando-erazo-ihgeomin-el-verdadero-problema-que-tenemos-es-el-de-la-mineria-artesanal-que-si-contamina/>

On Saturday, a peaceful protest camp against a mining project was violently evicted by state security forces in Guapinol (see the two last e-mails and the 1. link for a press release by the Coalition against Impunity). Yesterday, two days later, two members of the Armed Forces (a soldier and an official) died "under not yet established circumstances" in Guapinol.

El Tiempo reports that there was a confrontation between civilians and state security forces. They also reports that the two deceased belonged

to the Military Police.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/29/la-coalicion-contra-la-impunidad-exige-el-cese-de-la-represion-del-regimen-orlandista/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/29/dos-militares-muertos-luego-que-regimen-militariza-el-sector-de-tocacolonia/>

<https://tiempo.hn/guerra-minera-militares-mueren-durante-enfrentamiento-con-pobladores-tocacolonia/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/dos-militares-fallecidos-y-uno-herido-tras-desalojo-a-manifestantes-en-tocacolonia.html>

C-Libre denounces that the National Police decommissioned the motorcycle of journalist Juan Zepeda Vásquez as he was reporting on a crime. According to him, he was accused of photographing the crime scene before the police arrived.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/alertas/obstruccion-informativa/921-policia-decomisa-motocicleta-de-periodista-que-fotografiaba-escena-de-accidente-vial>

Salvador Nasralla comments on the possibility to join forces with Luis Zelaya for the next elections.

<https://confidencialhn.com/nasralla-se-aliaria-con-luis-para-elecciones-de-2021-esta-dispuesto-a-ir-al-pacto-social-de-flores/>

By September, purged members of the National Police had in total received 745.6 million Lempiras.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1229074-466/exdirector-de-policia-recibe-22-millones-de-lempiras-por-prestaciones>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/29/happy-birthday-to-you/>

30/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - MACCIH, US; Mining - Los Pinares, Azacualpa, Transparency; Journalists; Caravan - Journalist, US; Women's Rights; Corruption - de Lobo; Public Health; Education; Mayors; National Dialogue; and the Walls Speak

Berta's mother met with the MACCIH and requested their support in the investigation of the intellectual authors of the assassination of her daughter, a closer collaboration between the MACCIH, UFECIC and ATIC, as well as a close observation of the trial and the investigation.

https://twitter.com/OEA_MACCIH/status/1057419904289304587

<https://confidencialhn.com/familia-de-berta-caceres-denuncia-impunidad-y-farsa-judicial/>

Berta Zúniga will speak in the US at Berkeley tomorrow.

<https://twitter.com/clasberkeley/status/1057308866935963651>

With the violent eviction and repression by state security forces on Saturday (see 1. link and previous e-mails), the situation in Guapinol took a turn to the worse. Radio Progreso presents the local resistance and the reaction by the JOH regime as exemplary of the criminalization of social movements in Honduras. The case shows, first, "the ineffectiveness of [state] institutions to protect human rights and provide adequate responses to populations that claim their right to live

in a healthy environment, seeing protest as a mechanism to draw the attention of the authorities and achieve solutions to their demands." Second, "the existence of a policy of criminalization that seeks to deliberately distort the facts to sanction claims or the work of human rights defenders, and in this way minimize the pressure from social sectors and an informed public, which are fundamental in a democratic society." Radio Progreso then goes on to list the five main ingredients of state criminalization campaigns.

The Meso-American Initiative of Women Rights Defenders also launched an alert.

Defensores en Línea spoke with one of the local representatives, Juan López. He is one of 18 HRDs currently facing criminal charges for their peaceful resistance. In Tocoa, where Guapinol is located, there are six mining projects in total covering 350 hectares.

The Municipal Committee for the Defense of the Commons and Public Goods denounce that the central and municipal governments try to impose the mining projects by "the force of blood and fire".

The violent eviction was accompanied by a militarization of the area and a curfew at 6pm which still is in place.

Libre published a press release announcing that the nominated a commission to investigate the human rights violation taking place there. The investigation includes the local mayor of Tocoa, Adán Funes, who belongs to Libre.

CONADEH asked for a mediation after the death of two members of the Armed Forces.

The Armed Forces hold criminal groups responsible for the deaths.

They try to present themselves as the victims claiming that they only used "dissuasive weapons", but there were several wounded protestors.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2317-honduras-terrorismo-de-estado-en-guapinol>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/guapinol-el-abc-de-la-criminalizacion/>

<http://im-defensoras.org/2018/10/alertadefensoras-honduras-criminalizacion-uso-excesivo-de-la-fuerza-y-violencia-paramilitar-contradefensoras-del-campamento-guapinol-en-defensa-del-agua/>

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/violenta-arremetida-del-capital-transnacional-contralaspoblaciones-en-guapinol/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/cofاده-avizora-estrategia-de-estigmatizacion-contradefensores-de-la-tierra/>

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/denuncias/item/2319-juego-macabro-entre-minera-gobierno-y-cuerpos-represivos-entrara-en-accion-en-guapinol>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3055-alerta-honduras-campesinos-de-guapinol-advierten-caceria-en-estado-de-sitio-de-esta-noche>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/30/libre-investigara-violacion-de-derechos-humanos-y-la-explotacion-minera-a-cielo-abierto-en-tocoa-colon/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/30/ante-conflicto-por-proyecto-minero-piden-a-autoridades-de-libre-investigar-a-alcalde-de-tocoa/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/conadeh-expresa-su-consternacion-ante-luchas-violentas-en-colon/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/ombudsman-pide-evitar-violencia-fratricida-y-llama-a-que-prevalezca-el-dialogo.html>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ffaa-están-seguras-que-hubo-bandas-criminales-en-protesta-que-murieron-dos-militares/>

<https://tiempo.hn/guapinol-zona-de-guerra-golpes-disparos-y-muertos/>

The diocese of Santa Rosa de Copán has accompanied the peaceful resistance against the mining company MINOSA and its intention to move the local cemetery to mine more gold. "To make visible the support of the diocese for the people, the Santa Rosa de Copán bishop, Monseñor

Darwin Andino, went to preside at a Mass in Azacualpa on Monday, October 29."

<https://hermanojuancito.blogspot.com/2018/10/praying-to-true-god-in-face-of-idol-of.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cig2OaV9C2U&feature=youtu.be>

The Institute of Environmental Law of Honduras (IDMAHO) denounces in its newest edition of the Gaceta Verde the ministerial agreement restricting access to information about extractive projects (discussed in these e-mails about a month ago).

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/d02dd2498a2fb3cd56bd850c3/files/22290778-93bb-4c5d-a1c9-a71561efa56b/Gaceta_Verde_69_Julio_Agosto_2018.pdf

Pasos de Animal Grande denounces that police agent attacked several HRDs belonging to AEDH and ASOPODEHU when they were accompanying the Caravan of Dignity last Friday.

<http://www.pasosdeanimalgrande.com/index.php/en/contexto/item/2318-policias-siguen-ejemplo-de-sus-jefes-y-atacan-a-defensores-de-derechos-humanos>

Padre Melo published a detailed analysis of the factors driving migration from Honduras. He concludes with an important section on how to position ourselves in this situation.

The Guardian covers an additional driver (next to violence, crime, corruption, an extractive development model) which is often forgetting but especially pertinent to Central America, climate change. "Experts say that alongside those factors, climate change in the region is exacerbating – and sometimes causing – a miasma of other problems including crop failures and poverty."

InSight Crime cites "rampant crime and violence", "broken institutions, impunity" and "corruption at the highest levels" as the main drivers. Oxfam denounces the abuse and the human rights violations against the Central American migrants.

<https://www.alainet.org/es/articulo/196246>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/oct/30/migrant-caravan-causes-climate-change-central-america>

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/crime-factors-pushing-northern-triangle-migrants-out/>

<https://www.oxfam.org/es/sala-de-prensa/notas-de-prensa/2018-10-30/oxfam-denuncia-abusos-y-violaciones-derechos-humanos-en>

ConexiHon spoke with the criminalized journalist Bartolo Fuentes who has been covering migration-linked topic for almost two decades.

Fuentes also announced legal actions against those denigrating and trying to criminalize him.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/migrantes/853-nunca-he-sugerido-que-la-gente-se-vaya-ilegal-bartolo-fuentes>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/29/bartolo-fuentes-procedera-legalmente-contrala-canciller-y-contrael-gerente-de-la-enee/>

NPR covers the migrant caravan focusing on Trump's threats to cut aid and the reactions in Honduras.

The Honduran journalist Jennifer Avila is currently in the US invited by Witness for Peace. She reports on the migrant caravan from the other side of the border.

AZ Central reports on how the caravan organizes itself and the help they get from locals. "Volunteers with the bi-national group Pueblo Sin Fronteras, which has stepped in to help coordinate the caravan after migrants crossed into Mexico from Guatemala, insist there isn't a political agenda or hidden hand guiding the caravan. (...) "There is nothing political here," said Carlos Alberto Maldonado, a 32-year-old migrant from San Pedro Sula, where the caravan began in Honduras. "They

are just trying to help the migrants because they have seen what is happening in our country.””

<https://www.npr.org/2018/10/29/661879726/hondurans-closely-following-fate-of-migrant-caravan-and-trumps-threats-to-cut-ai?t=1540962674156>

<https://contracorriente.red/2018/10/29/cruzar-la-frontera-es-solo-el-inicio/>

<https://eu.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/immigration/2018/10/28/who-organized-migrant-caravan-headed-united-states/1804008002/>

The UN Working Group on the Discrimination against Women will visit Honduras for the first time on November 1 to 14.

<https://oacnudh.hn/discriminacion-contra-la-mujer-grupo-de-expertas-de-la-onu-anuncia-su-primera-visita-oficial-a-honduras/>

The Constitution Chamber has admitted an appeal by the former first lady Rosa Elena de Lobo. Her legal team has tried this several times before, but so far the appeals have been rejected. It is worrisome that she came through now.

<https://confidencialhn.com/admiten-recurso-de-amparo-a-favor-de-ex-primera-dama-rosa-de-lobo/>

Criterio reports that the list of people awaiting surgery has grown to 9000.

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/30/a-nueve-mil-cirugias-sin-realizar-ascienden-la-mora-en-hospitales-publicos-de-honduras/>

Teachers protested outside Congress for a decent pension and better wages.

<https://confidencialhn.com/docentes-protestan-ante-el-parlamento-por-bajos-sueldos-y-jubilaciones/>

According to the Clean Politics Unit, some 40 mayors will be sanctioned for a lack of transparency regarding their campaign spending.

<https://confidencialhn.com/sancionaran-con-fuertes-multas-a-politicos-que-no-reportaron-gastos-de-campanas/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/sancionaran-a-40-candidatos-a-alcaldes-por-no-presentar-informe-de-transparencia.html>

The next round of the National Dialogue will be prolonged to November 15 or 16.

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-dialogo-politico-fue-prorrogado-hasta-el-15-de-noviembre/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/dialogo-politico-se-extiende-hasta-el-16-de-noviembre.html>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1229387-466/pol%C3%ADticos-de-acuerdo-con-plebiscito-pero-a%C3%BAno-definen-fecha>

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2018/10/29/las-paredes-de-tegucigalpa-gritan/>

31/10/18

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Mining - Los Pinares; Political Prisoners; Caravan - Journalist, Femicide, US; Journalists; Corruption - Congress; Rosenthal; Campesinas; Budget; Evangelical Confraternity; EU; and a Theft at the RNP

BBC reports on the irregularities in the Berta Cáceres trial and they with Berta Zúniga about the possible outcomes of the trial. "No doubt

there will be convictions, because it is in the interest of the State. But they are going to be fragile sentences and the result of a superficial process that is not going to shed light on what really happened."

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-46046105>

The Alignment against the Reelection (CCC) held a press conference yesterday denouncing "the actions of war" having taken place in Guapinol and the ongoing militarization of the area.

COFADEH also published an urgent action.

CEJIL condemns the repression and violent eviction of state security forces in Guapinol. 'Marcia Aguiluz, director of CEJIL for Central America and Mexico, stressed that "the persecution the community of Guapinol faces today is part of a systematic practice in Honduras, where companies in collusion with state authorities have private security agents in order to control the territory and threaten the security of the community. This project is a new expression of the model that promotes the extraction of natural resources over the welfare of the majority."

The head of the Armed Forces, René Orlando Ponce Fonseca, tries to portray his soldiers as defenders of the people.

The disputed mayor's office in Tocoa announced a plebiscite under TSE supervision about the mining projects in the region. The local inhabitants rejected the proposal as they do not trust the TSE.

The director of Oxfam Honduras, George Redman, contradicts the official discourse presenting mining as a tool for development. "Mining generates little employment and generates little income for the State."

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/854-convergencia-denuncia-operativos-de-guerra-contra-defensores-de-bienes-comunes-y-territorios>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/31/convergencia-contra-el-continuismo-condena-y-denuncia-los-operativos-de-guerra-en-el-aguan/>

EN:

<http://defensoresenlinea.com/urgent-action-violent-eviction-of-the-encampment-for-life-in-guapinol/>

ES: <http://defensoresenlinea.com/accion-urgente/>

<https://www.cejil.org/es/honduras-condenamos-acciones-estatales-que-ponen-riesgo-derecho-al-agua-guapinol-tocoa>

<https://radiohrn.hn/2018/10/31/general-ponce-fonseca-mis-soldados-salen-a-proteger-al-pueblo/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/31/con-plebiscito-buscan-solucionar-conflicto-en-guapinol/>

<https://criterio.hn/2018/10/31/la-mineria-no-es-la-solucion-a-la-pobreza-y-desigualdad-en-honduras-oxfam/>

Salvador Nasralla claims that the political prisoners will be released as a result of the National Dialogue.

<https://tiempo.hn/dialogo-amnistia-liberar-presos-nasralla/>

Sandra Cuffe continues with her important work by directly accompanying the migrant caravan and reporting on their situation and portraying some of the people seeking refuge away from Honduras. "Orvelina Melendez witnessed her husband's murder. Now on US-bound caravan, she hopes to provide for family, sick son."

Avispa Midia published the second part of their analysis of the factors pushing Hondurans to migrate.

Radio Progreso produced a short video bringing together 11 reasons why people flee from Honduras.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/honduran-mother-holds-husband-death-papers-border-181031220410604.html>

<https://avispa.org/violencia-despojo-hambre-represion-honduras-y-las-razones-del-exodo-migrante-parte-2/>

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/por-que-migran-los-hondurenos-y-hondurenas/>

The Honduran journalist Bartolo Fuentes self-exiled after being the victim of a denigration and criminalization campaign by the JOH regime. He is being falsely accused of having organized the migrant caravan. A recent statement by Congress' vice-president Antonio Rivera Callejas shows that this campaign continues.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3057-al-exilio-periodista-hondureno-que-acompano-exodo-migrante>

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/frustraciones-politicas-son-la-causa-de-que-exdiputado-organizara-caravana-dice-antonio-rivera.html>

Radio Progreso presents violence against women and the threat of femicide as another important driver of migration. They portray the 25-year old 'Johana' who decided to leave her violent husband after ten years.

<http://wp.radioprogreso.hn.net/la-violencia-de-genero-sigue-acabando-con-vida-de-hondurenas/>

US Senator Patrick Leahy published a press release criticizing the response by the Trump administration to the migrant caravan. "Unable to credibly defend his corporate tax giveaways or Republicans' unending zeal to strip healthcare and coverage of pre-existing conditions from millions of Americans, President Trump, one week ahead of an election that could place a check on his presidency, is returning to a familiar playbook: deploying demagoguery to distract and divide us. This time by using a caravan of vulnerable migrants and asylum seekers a thousand miles from our border as scapegoats to foment irrational fears and rally his most ardent believers."

The UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrants, Felipe González Morales, warns about the use of soldiers to try to stop the migration caravan. "Inevitably, when the Armed Forces are employed for tasks that are not theirs this ends in human rights violations."

This is a reaction to Trump's announcement to send 5200 soldiers to the border.

<https://www.leahy.senate.gov/press/commentary/statement-of-sen-patrick-leahy-on-the-caravan/birthright-citizenship/troops-to-southern-border>

<https://news.un.org/es/story/2018/10/1443982>

<https://avispa.org/15-mil-militares-de-los-ee-uu-seran-enviados-a-la-frontera-con-mexico/>

Tomorrow is the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists. UN experts emitted a press release requesting that States take action to reverse and resist the atrocious tendency of impunity.

https://www.facebook.com/ONUDDHH/posts/2284246868482765?__xts__%5B0%5D=68.ARChXcK99yARDNdOfrkPmloYHT3f6dtY0wB-J3O7rCipAu0ADM0UvkcgPLFE6TA6DhaTSFc8Fkv-ZrZP04k5khfy9oEglwx9Gs38cj-eieHQijq3LS5Eodqzh1XL8bNpVWMmuReAtpgx2jk_TIEEs7kFaqGR7mOrgXwyBBk0he2RzLBOSkvj-i16KFSRrS8a0xV7T4wD20NVXax0TfUOFVVPVjtg&_tn_=K-R

The Constitutional Chamber rejected an appeal by the Nationalist congresswoman Sara Medina Galo investigated for corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/desestiman-recurso-a-favor-de-parlamentaria-para-saber-del-porque-es-investigada-por-la-ufecic/>

<http://www.proceso.hn/actualidad/7-actualidad/sala-constitucional-de-la-csj-niega-recurso-de-amparo-contra-la-ufecic.html>

The Rosenthal family is preparing a law suit against Honduras. It is

reported that they will sue it for \$1 billion.

<https://tiempo.hn/interponen-demanda-millonaria-contr-a-el-estado-hondureno/>

In a public forum by various campesino organizations and Oxfam, campesinas formulated their demand to Congress to approve the budget for Credimujer, "a social project that seeks to benefit, in the first instance, some 50 thousand Honduran women from the rural area who are engaged in agriculture".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3059-campesinas-hondurenas-urgen-a-congreso-presupuesto-para-credimujer>

FOSDEH published a further piece of analysis regarding the 2019 budget.

<http://www.fosdeh.com/2018/10/la-importancia-de-las-disposiciones-del-presupuesto-general-de-la-republica-de-honduras/>

Once more, the Evangelical Confraternity, whose director Alberto Solórzano is part of the purging committee, has been chosen by the JOH regime for a collaboration. In 2017, ConfidencialHN reported that Solórzano had received 1 million Lempiras by the JOH regime for "various social projects".

<https://confidencialhn.com/fabuloso-confraternidad-evangelica-sera-el-benefactor-de-los-vulnerables-a-costa-del-dinero-publico/>

The EU together with the Dutch institute NIMD presented yesterday the PROdemos project, "that it is proposed to strengthen the parties in their role as representatives of the needs and fundamental aspirations of the Honduran population."

<http://www.proceso.hn/politica-nacional/36-proceso-electoral/nimd-y-ue-apoyara-partidos-politicos-para-fortalecer-transparencia-y-valores-democraticos.html>

Three computers were stolen at the National Persons Registry (RNP).

<https://confidencialhn.com/descartan-perdida-de-informacion-sensible-del-rnp/>