

01/09/21

Honduras Daily: Guapinol; ZEDEs; Community Radios; Corruption - US, IHSS; JOH; COVID-19 - Health Sector, Vaccines, Corruption, Electricity; Elections; and 200 Lempiras

"Relatives of the eight Guapinol defenders imprisoned for defending the environment, together with the Committee of Common and Public Goods of Tocoa, held a sit-in in front of the Supreme Court of Justice in Tegucigalpa, demanding the release of the defenders who have been unjustly deprived of their freedom for more than two years."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/frente-a-la-csj-familiares-de-defensores-de-guapinol-exigen-libertad-inmediata/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/berta-oliva-acompano-a-los-familiares-de-los-presos-politicos-de-guapinol-en-su-exigencia-de-justicia-y-libertad/>

The pictures by COPINH show a great turnout by the recent town hall meeting in Azacualpa, Intibucá, where inhabitants declared their community free of ZEDEs.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1433172161926205442>

<https://criterio.hn/en-cabildo-abierto-intibuca-dice-no-a-las-zede/>

"We have experienced surveillance and monitoring by CONATEL, which constitutes a systematic persecution with a view to the closure of our media, denounced this August 30, 2021, the Association of Community Media of Honduras, AMCH."

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/amenazas/item/3252-amch-denuncia-que-conatel-persigue-vigila-y-hostiga-a-radios-comunitarias-en-honduras>

CESPAD investigates the role of the US in fighting corruption in Honduras. "The new US administration, led by Democrat Joe Biden, established as a priority in its foreign policy towards the countries of the Northern Triangle, the halting of irregular migration. To achieve this, one of the main components was the fight against corruption and impunity (which generate insecurity and poverty) and the lack of governments committed to attacking these problems at their roots. But how far has progress been made?"

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/01/analisis-falta-de-estrategias-claras-de-la-politica-estadounidense-no-permite-combatir-la-corrupcion-en-honduras-y-el-triangulo-norte/>

"The National Unit of Fiscal Support (UNAF) continued for the second day with the initial hearing of the case called "14 contracts", in which it formalized the accusation and proposed evidence against 15 of the 16 involved in a fraud of more than 158 million lempiras in the Honduran Institute of Social Security (IHSS)."

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-formaliza-acusacion-y-propone-pruebas-por-nuevo-desfalco-al-ihss-la-audiencia-inicial-continuara-el-proximo-lunes/>

JOH inaugurated the Government Civic Center (CCG) yesterday.

<https://confidencialhn.com/inauguran-centro-civico-gubernamental/>

So far, there have been 341'518 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 8974 confirmed deaths.

According to the deputy health minister, 98% of hospitalized corona patients in Honduras have not been vaccinated, or in this case, probably not been able to.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-roza-las-9-mil-muertes-por-covid-19/>

<https://proceso.hn/el-98-de-las-personas-hospitalizadas-por-covid-no-se-han-vacunado-senala-viceministro-guillen/>

"Contract doctors from the Leonardo Martínez hospital, who work in COVID wards, are staging a sit-in this Wednesday to demand payment of two months' salary and other labor rights."

<https://proceso.hn/medicos-por-contrato-del-hospital-leonardo-martinez-amenazan-con-paro-indefinido-ante-falta-de-pago/>

Another 81'600 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine arrived in Honduras.

<https://proceso.hn/llegan-81-mil-600-dosis-de-vacuna-astrazeneca-compradas-por-el-ihss/>

Even though he is wanted by Interpol for his role in the corruption case about the mobile hospitals, Axel López was apparently seen at a medical fare in Miami offering...mobile hospitals.

<https://confidencialhn.com/con-orden-de-captura-internacional-axel-lopez-promociona-tranquilamente-hospitales-moviles-en-feria-medica-en-miami/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1489752-466/pese-alerta-interpol-axel-lopez-feria-medica-miami>

As previously rumored, the Superintendence of Public and Private Partnerships (SAPP) has now intervened the Honduras Energy Company (EEH).

In response, its director announced that they would demand more than \$800 million from Honduras.

According to the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA), "the debt of National Electric Energy Company (ENEE) has increased by 88.5% since the Honduras Energy Company (EEH) began operations under the supposed objective of recovering losses in the services provided by ENEE in distribution and financial flow".

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/intervienen-eeh/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/01/superintendencia-de-concesiones-interviene-consorcio-energia-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/tras-anuncio-de-intervencion-eeh-demandaria-al-estado-por-805-millones-de-dolares/>

<https://criterio.hn/cna-con-contratacion-de-la-eeh-deuda-de-la-enee-se-incremento-en-un-88-5/>

The former Nationalist president Pepe Lobo announced that he will work on uniting Libre and the Liberal Party for the coming elections.

<https://confidencialhn.com/pepe-lobo-asegura-que-apadrinara-alianza-xiomara-yani-para-sacar-a-joh/>

<https://proceso.hn/libre-alaba-intenciones-de-lobo-sosa-por-unir-a-la-oposicion-dice-expresidente-zelaya-rosales/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/nuevo-billete-de-200-lempiras-no-deberia-generar-inflacion-en-el-pais/>

02/09/21

Honduras Daily: Elections - Opposition; Drug Trafficking; COVID-19 - Health Sector, Vaccines, Corruption; National Police; Electricity; Migration - US; and the Last 200 Years...

Radio Progreso presents four challenges facing the coming elections. i) to overcome the specter of continuity that is very present in the whole electoral process; ii) how to confront a political party that is officially defined by US prosecutors as a criminal structure? iii) how to generate enthusiasm in the electorate? iv) how to respect the dignity of voters?

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/np/desafios-del-actual-proceso-electoral/>

Libre still discards a possible alliance with the Liberal Party under Yani Rosenthal.

<https://proceso.hn/xiomara-castro-descarta-alianza-con-yani-rosenthal/>

Hitmen dressed as doctors went to a private hospital and murdered Wilkin Montalván who had been there for COVID-19.

Montalván, a brother of a Libre deputy congressman, had been linked to drug trafficking by JOH's brother Tony Hernández.

<https://proceso.hn/trasciende-asesinato-de-hermano-de-diputado-por-olancha-en-hospital-privado/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/wilkin-montalvan-asesinado-en-una-clinica-privada-de-la-capital-vinculado-al-narcotrafico/>

So far, there have been 342'508 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 8998 confirmed deaths.

The Funeral Association of Honduras documented more than 18'500 deaths.

August has been the worst month of the pandemic so far.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-supera-los-342000-contagios-y-roza-los-9000-muertos-por-covid-19/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/pandemia-ha-cobrado-la-vida-a-mas-de-18-mil-personas-segun-funerarios/>

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-agosto-el-peor-mes-de-la-pandemia-en-el-2021/>

A triage center in Tegucigalpa announced to have run out of oxygen.

<https://confidencialhn.com/evidencian-que-triaje-de-infop-de-la-region-norte-se-queda-sin-oxigeno-para-pacientes-covid/>

More Pfizer vaccine doses arrived in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/234-mil-dosis-de-vacunas-contr-la-covid-19-de-la-casa-farmaceutica-pfizer-llegan-a-honduras-esta-semana/>

The MP reacted to the viewing of Alex López at a medial fare in Miami (see yesterday). According to them, they expect Interpol to apprehend him.

López' lawyer said that there is no extradition request for his client and he can freely move in the US.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-dice-que-interpol-tiene-orden-de-captura-contr-axel-lopez/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3172-en-eeuu-no-hay-peticion-de-extradicion-de-honduras-abg-de-axel-lopez>

"Police abuses in the town of Marcala, La Paz department, have always occurred, but now they are more excessive; and out of fear the population does not want to report them, according to several people interviewed who prefer to remain anonymous."

In another case, the MP presented charges against a former police agent accused of human trafficking.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/poblacion-teme-denunciar-abusos-policiales-en-marcala/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/se-solicita-juicio-en-contr-de-expolicia-acusada-por-trata-de-personas-en-comayagua/>

Criterio takes a closer look at the newest development in the EEH-ENEE saga wondering if the intervention of the EEH is the solution, campaigning by the JOH regime or a new attempt to split up ENEE.

Either way, there is a strong possibility that the new government will inherit a 20 billion Lempiras debt to EEH.

<https://criterio.hn/intervencion-a-la-eeh-solucion-proselitismo-o-un-nuevo-intento-por-despedazar-la-enee/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3171-nuevo-gobierno-y-hondurenos-heredaran-casi-20-mil-millones-en-deuda-a-eeh>

148 Hondurans were deported from the US on Wednesday.

<https://tiempo.hn/deportacion-de-hondurenos-en-2021-ninos-solos/>

... from an indigenous perspective.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/02/un-vistazo-al-bicentenario-desde-la-realidad-de-los-pueblos-originarios/>

03/09/21

Honduras Daily: Political Prisoners; COPINH; ZEDEs - Drug Trafficking; COVID-19 - Health System, Vaccines, Tourism; National Police; Migration - Mexico; Budget; Electricity;

"10 days until political prisoners Edwin Espinal & Raúl Alvarez stand trial on Sept 13 for charges stemming from 2017 electoral crisis."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1433812623158480898>

"The Criminal Court of Appeals with National Jurisdiction in Corruption Matters confirmed this Friday the nullity of the process that has been carried out so far in the "Fraude Sobre el Gualcarque" case, after the expulsion of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH)."

COPINH celebrates this as an important victory.

<https://criterio.hn/csj-abrira-nuevo-juicio-sobre-fraude-sobre-gualcarque-incorporando-a-las-victimas-del-copinh/>

<https://copinh.org/2021/09/corte-apelaciones-confirma-que-proceso-en-caso-fraude-gualcarque-es-nulo-desde-que-copinh-expulsado-como-victima/>

The mayor of Roatán, accused of drug trafficking, had the charges against him provisionally dropped.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1490263-466/dejan-libre-alcalde-roatan-jerry-hynds-sobreseimiento-provisional-narcotrafico>

<https://criterio.hn/dejan-en-libertad-provisional-al-alcalde-de-roatan-jerry-hynds/>

So far, there have been 343'807 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9028 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-supera-los-9-mil-fallecidos-por-covid-19/>

Another doctor died to COVID-19. He had received two AstraZeneca doses.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1490412-466/muere-doctor-honduras-dos-dosis-vacuna-covid-19>

The US donated 89'000 more vaccine doses.

101'000 more doses will be donated to Honduras from the Dominican Republic.

<https://hn.usembassy.gov/es/gobierno-de-los-estados-unidos-de-america-realiza-nueva-donacion-de-vacunas-contra-covid-19-a-honduras-2/>

<https://proceso.hn/republica-dominicana-donara-101-mil-vacunas-a-honduras/>

Even though August has been the deadliest month during the pandemic so far, the Minister of Tourism expects some 1 million (internal) tourists for the Morazán Break.

<https://confidencialhn.com/turismo-estima-la-circulacion-de-un-millon-de-personas-durante-la-semana-morazanica/>

"The Special Prosecutor's Office for Human Rights (FEDH) obtained a conviction against a former sub-inspector of the National Preventive Police for the crime of harassment and illegal detention."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/sentencia-condenatoria-para-subinspector-de-policia-por-dos-delitos/>

"Mexico's National Guard violently dispersed the third, and last, of a series of migrant caravans that marched towards Mexico City to protest the country's slow asylum system. Several people were wounded and an indeterminate number were detained in what turned into a manhunt through fields and buildings."

<https://latinamericadailybriefing.blogspot.com/2021/09/mexico-violently-blocks-migrant-march.html>

Finance minister Luis Mata announced that next year's budget will be 20 billion Lempiras higher.

<https://confidencialhn.com/anuncian-que-en-20-mil-millones-de-lempiras-aumentara-el-presupuesto-general-de-2022/>

The BCIE announced that they won't give loans to Honduras anymore in order for the ENEE to pay outstanding debt.

<https://proceso.hn/bcie-no-puede-seguir-otorgando-recursos-a-la-enee-para-el-pago-de-atrasos-dante-mossi/>

Honduras Daily: Protests; ZEDEs; Elections - JOH; COVID-19 - Religion, Domestic Violence, Corruption;

"Residents of Zapotal in San Pedro Sula, in northern Honduras, have strongly protested against the construction of the exclusive housing project "Ciudad Jaragua", which is being built on land belonging to the El Merendón forest reserve. The residents of this sector have reported damage to their homes due to the use of explosives and have even denounced serious damage to the environment."

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3176-honduras-ciudad-jaragua-destruye-el-merendon-y-se-ensana-contrasampedranos>

ContraCorriente looks at the promise of employment by the ZEDEs. "According to a report by Forbes Central America, the authorities of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security had proposed to create 150,000 jobs annually, in order to achieve 600,000 jobs by the end of Hernandez's second presidential term. However, only 16,900 jobs were generated. Since 2013, when the ZEDE organic law was approved, the population was promised that these zones would bring development and employment for the population, but so far that has not been seen to be the case. (...) Zepeda refers to the ZEDE and assures that the ZEDE issue is "very rough, it is not going to work very well. It is creating islands of prosperity for individual agents, for oligarchs, for economic and political elites". To conclude, Ismael Zepeda explained that "the ZEDE -like most of the things this government has been doing in the last 11 years- are not to reduce unemployment or to reduce poverty and inequality, but quite the opposite, to favor the small group".

<https://contracorriente.red/2021/09/04/honduras-ejecuta-su-programa-empleaton-en-torno-a-las-zede/>

CESPAD analyzes the use of the Vida Mejor social program as an electoral tool of the JOH regime.

JOH also continues to present the National Party as a guarantor of security glossing over that Honduras remains one of the most violent countries outside of a war zone.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/04/gasto-publico-de-cara-a-las-elecciones-generales-el-uso-de-la-plataforma-vida-mejor-como-maquinar-ia-politica/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/mandatario-hernandez-dice-que-honduras-no-puede-volver-a-ser-el-pais-mas-violento-del-mundo/>

While not as widespread as in the US, there are also evangelical pastors in Honduras negating the pandemic and then dying of COVID-19. According to the Evangelical Fellowship of Honduras, 138 pastors have died so far.

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3178-honduras-fanatismo-religioso-tan-mortal-como-covid-muere-138-pastor-que-negaba-virus>

El Herald reports on "domestic violence" during the pandemic.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1490464-466/violencia-domestica-hogares-honduras-cuarentena>

Some days ago, the highly criticized Invest-H was recognized by the Access to Public Information Institute (IAIP) as 100% transparent. This raised some questions which ContraCorriente investigates. "Although 1,103,158 public documents are published in the portal of the IAIP which, according to the law, are for consultation by citizens, the legitimacy, veracity and authenticity of them is not certain. According to Lester Ramirez, the fact that there are no guarantees with the information is due to the "interference and political component that this government office has, which in fact is elected by the legislative chamber". He also added that access to these documents, even though they are public, is sometimes restricted, for which reason "the guidelines for the information portals must be improved".

<https://contracorriente.red/2021/09/04/a-pesar-de-corrupcion-invest-h-recibe-reconocimientos-por-transparencia/>

05/09/21

Honduras Daily: ZEDEs; Indigenous Women; Elections - Libre; COVID-19 – Vaccines;

A forum on ZEDEs with the participation of COPINH and OFRANEH takes place today in Tegucigalpa, but it will also be live streamed.

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1434743423307759617>

Yesterday was the International Day of the Indigenous Woman.

<https://madj.org/2021/09/05/saludamos-el-dia-internacional-de-la-mujer-indigena-honrando-la-memoria-de-nuestra-companera-tolupan-enriqueta-matute/>

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/05/las-mujeres-indigenas-y-el-feminismo-comunitario/>

Xiomara Castro, Libre's presidential candidate, presented her plans for a future government. They include a new international anti-corruption body as well as a constituent assembly.

<https://proceso.hn/xiomara-castro-lanza-su-plan-de-gobierno-dice-que-pedira-una-cicoh-2-y-una-constituyente/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/xiomara-castro-presenta-plan-de-gobierno-2022-2026/>

Honduras aims to start vaccinated 15-17 year-olds in one week.

<https://confidencialhn.com/sesal-prepara-jornada-de-vacunacion-contra-la-covid-19-para-jovenes-de-15-a-17-anos/>

06/09/21

Honduras Daily: Indigenous Peoples - Tolupán; Guapinol; Extradition; Elections - National Party, Finance; Corruption; COVID-19 - Mobile Hospitals; Migration;

OACNUDH together with ERIC and the Platform against Impunity met with indigenous Tolupán to discuss free, prior and informed consent and extractive projects.

Most of the time, indigenous peoples are not consulted, but criminalized. This September 10, 9 indigenous Tolupán will be in court criminalized by the company INMARE and the JOH regime,

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1434871508606795778>

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1434877370054361091>

<https://criterio.hn/continua-criminalizacion-contra-tolupanes-en-honduras/>

"This morning, relatives of the water and life defender of the Guapinol and San Pedro sector, Jeremías Martínez, informed the Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH) that the defender's health condition was delicate and that he urgently needed to be transferred to a medical center to receive adequate medical assistance."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/el-cofadeh-solicita-en-habeas-corpus-verificar-el-estado-de-salud-del-defensor-de-guapinol-jeremias-martinez/>

The president of the Supreme Court, Rolando Argueta Pérez, calls for a "extradition law with clear norms". This may sound reasonable, but many fear a weakening of the extradition law to avoid a possible future extradition of JOH.

<https://confidencialhn.com/presidente-de-csj-recomienda-crear-ley-de-extradicion-con-normas-claras/>

At least 50'000 to 100'000 Hondurans won't be able to vote in the general elections because they are not in the new electoral census.

The CNE has chosen the US company Smartmatic to be responsible for the facial recognition and finger print readers of voters.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1490958-466/100-mil-personas-sin-enrolar-elecciones-generales-honduras-2021-dni>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2021/1490946-508/cne-elige-empresa-identifica-votantes-sistema-biometrico-smartmatic>

"A group of National Party activists attacked the Liberal Party mayoral candidate for San Antonio de Flores, south of El Paraíso, Pedro Cáceres, who denounced illegal transfers [of domiciles] for next November's elections."

Something similar took place further north. Libre congressional candidate Lesbia Betina Cruz Martínez was also attacked by a group of allegedly Nationalist activists in San Pedro Sula. She has been denouncing illegal transfers of domiciles as well.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/turba-ataca-a-candidato-liberal-en-san-antonio-de-flores-el-paraiso/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/mp-revictimiza-a-candidata-a-diputada-en-sps/>

CESPAD published another article on campaign finances and their illicit origin.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/06/honduras-hay-probabilidades-de-garantizar-el-control-del-financiamiento-electoral-en-la-campana-electoral-2021/>

In Honduras a series of laws have been reformed in recent years, with the aim of "preventing the investigation and criminalization of acts of corruption", and that limit the investigative capacity of the Public Ministry, warns a study released Monday in Tegucigalpa. "The regulatory hindrance in the fight against corruption has been evident in recent years," says the document presented by FOSDEH".

<https://proceso.hn/leyes-reformadas-limitan-la-investigacion-del-ministerio-publico-de-honduras/>

So far, there have been 346'134 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9081 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-2-mil-327-nuevos-positivos-de-covid-19-y-acumula-346-mil-134/>

With the recent controversial sighting of Alex Lõpez in the US (see previous e-mail), Proceso Digital has a timely update on the mobile hospital saga.

<https://proceso.hn/hospitales-moviles-prolongada-auditoria-y-sin-respuestas/>

"According to official information, the coordinator (...) COIPRODEN, Wilmer Vásquez, stated on Radio Progreso that, as of August 2021, some 5,285 children were returned from the migratory route to the United States. He said that of this number, 3,717 are children who were traveling alone, and of these, 70% are boys and 30% are girls."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/mas-de-5-mil-ninos-y-ninas-han-sido-retornados-de-la-ruta-migratoria/>

07/09/21

Honduras Daily: Campesines; Corruption - Prisons; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Elections - Drug Trafficking, US, China, Social Struggles; COVID-19 - Vaccines, Mobile Hospitals; Congress; Migration - US; and 200 Years of Independence...

"For the third time, armed men carried out a violent eviction against the peasant groups "Hombres y Mujeres de Fe" and "Unidos al campo", in the sector of Cañada de Flores, municipality of Guaimaca, Francisco Morazán."

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/39-conflictos/1898-hombres-armados-desalojan-violentemente-a-campesinos-en-guaimaca>

El Herald published an investigation into the disappearance of 13 million Lempiras meant to compensate the family members of 107 inmates who died in the prison fire in San Pedro Sula in 2004. The members of the Armed Forces in control of the National Penitentiary Institute (INP) keep a tight lip about the whereabouts of the money.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/investigaciones/1491069-529/desfalco-instituto-nacional-penitenciario-reos-calcinados-san-pedro-sula-honduras>

Honduras Now has a helpful analysis on yesterday's sentencing of 4 Hondurans for the murder of Magdaleno Meza. "Magdaleno Meza was a drug trafficker arrested in possession of drug ledgers that implicated Tony Hernández. The ledgers were used to convict TH in NY courts. Meza was murdered in a Honduran prison by other prisoners. It is suspected that the murder was ordered by Prez JOH. The Honduran judiciary announces that 4 people have now been convicted for Meza's murder. They are likely all prisoners with long prison sentences that work as hitman for a major gang. This is another problem with the prison model. Why wouldn't a gang hitman murder on behalf of the gang you belong to if you're already sentenced to life in prison for another crime? Especially if that gang pays your family a monthly salary to be "on-call" to commit such acts for them? There is little doubt for ppl in #Honduras that JOH & some govt institutions were involved in Meza's murder. JOH's brother even visited Meza leading up to his murder, in a max-security jail run by the military. When will the masterminds of Meza's murder be charged?"

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1435350654009155597>

Expediente Público published a two-article series on illicit money flows into the Honduran elections.

Meanwhile, the Clean Politics Unit received some support by the UNDP and the EU for its work.

<https://expedientepublico.org/honduras-huellas-del-narcotrafico-y-crimen-organizado-develadas-en-campanas-electorales/>

<https://expedientepublico.org/honduras-penetracion-clara-del-narcotrafico-al-partido-nacional-y-otras-historias-de-narco-apoyo-politico/>

<https://proceso.hn/con-apoyo-de-pnud-y-ue-unidad-de-politica-limpia-se-fortalece-para-detectar-dinero-ilicito-en-campanas/>

"US Congressman W. Gregory Steube sent a letter to the head of the State Department, Antony Blinken, reminding him that Yani Rosenthal is an ex-convict with ties to drug traffickers and it is not advisable for him to come to power in Honduras. The August 24 letter stresses that combating entrenched corruption in Honduras is a key regional priority, particularly given the role corruption plays in encouraging migration and eroding economic opportunity and respect for human rights."

<https://criterio.hn/congresista-de-ee-uu-advierte-al-departamento-de-estado-que-yani-rosenthal-no-debe-llegar-al-poder/>

Apart from the US, there is another geopolitical front in the Honduran elections, China. "Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs warned Honduras that "Beijing's promises are showy but false," after Honduran candidate Xiomara Castro promised to establish relations with the People's Republic of China if she wins the upcoming elections, Taiwanese media reported today."

<https://confidencialhn.com/taiwan-avisa-a-honduras-las-promesas-de-pekín-son-vistas-pero-falsas/>

CESPAD analyzes the discourse of political candidates regarding their view on the socio-territorial struggles of Hondurans.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/07/analisis-y-las-luchas-socio-territoriales-de-los-pueblos-son-parte-de-los-discursos-y-compromisos-de-quienes-aspiran-a-cargos-de-eleccion-popular-en-honduras/>

So far, there have been 347'511 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9179 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-mil-377-nuevos-casos-de-covid-19-y-98-decesos/>

The Nationalist-controlled Congress (see also further down) approved a bill by the JOH regime which made the vaccine purchase a state secret for 10 years. They claim that Pfizer wanted that.

According to the Ministry of Health, at least 100'000 Hondurans have not showed up for their second shot.

<https://criterio.hn/quienes-quieren-reservar-informacion-sobre-vacunas-y-farmaceuticas-buscan-impunidad/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1491323-466/aprueban-mantener-bajo-secreto-informacion-compra-vacunas-honduras>

<https://confidencialhn.com/sesal-muestra-solicitud-de-pfizer-para-mantener-en-reserva-contrato-de-compra-de-vacunas-contrala-covid-19/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/autoridades-sanitarias-se-quejan-por-ausentismo-en-aplicacion-de-segunda-dosis-de-vacuna-contracovid-19/>

With the mobile hospitals back in the news (see previous days), the MP wants to show action from their part as well. They presented 71 pieces of evidence in the evidentiary hearing against Marco Antonio Bográn Corrales and Alex Alberto Moraes Girón.

<https://proceso.hn/por-caso-de-hospitales-moviles-el-mp-presentara-71-medios-de-prueba-en-juicio/>

The virtual Congress, with the ongoing absence of opposition politicians protesting the opaque virtual sessions, approved another \$185 millions of loans from the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank (BID) and the BCIE.

<https://proceso.hn/congreso-aprueba-mas-de-4-mil-millones-de-lempiras-en-prestamos-para-atender-victimas-de-huracanes-y-covid-19/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/cn-aprobara-mas-prestamos-para-ejecutar-proyectos-de-apoyo-a-familias-afectadas-por-covid-19-y-fenomenos-naturales/>

The Temporary Protection Status (TPS) for Hondurans (and other nations) in the US was prolonged by 15 months.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/minisitios/hondurenos-en-el-mundo/1491352-471/tps-honduras-migrantes-estados-unidos-extension-programa>

...a Woman's Struggle

<https://criterio.hn/bicentenario-en-honduras-se-escribira-con-nombre-de-mujer/>

08/09/21

Honduras Daily: Agriculture - Seeds; Garífunas; Femicides; Elections - US, JOH; Students; COVID-19 - Vaccines, Education, Poverty; and Elections in a Land of Crises

"In Honduras, according to FAO data,² there are some 484 thousand family farming plots, which generate 56.5% of sectoral production; this contributes 76% of employment in rural areas. These family farms use native seeds as a heritage and fundamental input for their production systems. However, for the promoters of "improved" seeds in Honduras (SAG-Senasa, DICTA, Agronomy Universities, seed sector), the native or creole seed belongs to prehistory, it does not exist. According to this sector, all farmers and indigenous people use "improved seeds" in their systems. Supine ignorance. (...) A concern of peasant and indigenous organizations, social and environmental movements, is the evolution of the regulatory frameworks of seeds in the country, which restrict more and more the rights to free circulation of seeds, an ancestral customary practice of indigenous and peasants in the history of our peoples. (...) In 2012, without consulting the affected groups, peasants, indigenous peoples and consumers, the Law for the Protection of Plant Varieties or Monsanto Law was approved. This Law criminalizes, prosecutes and imposes fines (Article 51) of up to 10 thousand days of minimum wage to those who violate the Law. The Honduran State recognizes intellectual property rights over seeds, privatizes life and prohibits the free circulation of seeds in peasant and indigenous hands. In 2021, the proposal for a new Seed Law was reactivated. This is aimed at only allowing the use of certified seed and prohibiting the planting of native and creole seeds. Fines and imprisonment are proposed for those who violate these legalized principles."

<https://www.biodiversidadla.org/Documentos/Nuevas-leyes-de-semillas-en-Honduras.-Mecanismo-de-despojo-y-violacion-de-derechos-a-campesinos-e-indigenas>

"Garífuna community leaders of Nueva Armenia in Jutiapa, Atlántida, denounce the deforestation of at least two manzanas of land on the island known as Cayo Menor, and hold the Cayos Cochinos Foundation responsible for this action."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-denuncian-deforestacion-de-cayos-cochinos/>

"The rates of violence against women and girls in Honduras continue to rise, according to the Center for Women's Rights in Honduras (CDM) so far in 2021 there are already 45,969 reports of violence and at least 174 femicides."

<https://criterio.hn/violencia-contra-la-mujer-se-ha-agudizado-en-el-2021/>

"Of the countries in Central America's "northern triangle," Honduras is the one that sends the most migrants to the United States. Already this year over 32,000 Honduran migrants have been deported from the United States, including more than 2,600 children. The country's president, Juan Orlando

Hernández (JOH), was supported by President Trump because he is a strongman willing to forcibly stop Honduran migrants from leaving the country. He even signed a misnamed “safe country” agreement implying that Honduras was a haven for asylum seekers. In return, Trump was willing to acquiesce in JOH’s disastrous domestic policies even though they are one of the main drivers for migrants to leave. Now, with Honduran elections on November 28, the Biden administration must weigh contradicting factors in deciding how to handle Trump’s erstwhile ally. On the one hand, Honduras is strategically reliable and important to U.S. business interests; on the other, problems of state-condoned violence, corruption, and impunity are fostering both continued migration and the drug trade.”

In Honduras, the US Embassy met with the National Electoral Council (CNE).

<https://nacla.org/United-States-Struggles-to-Pick-Side-Upcoming-Honduran-Elections>

<https://twitter.com/usembassyhn/status/1435651589251948552>

"The councilors of the National Electoral Council (CNE), Ana Paola Hall and Rixi Moncada, reiterated that next November's electoral process is at risk since the Executive Branch is the one who manages the financial resources of the governing body of the elections."

<https://criterio.hn/consejeras-del-cne-reiteran-el-riesgo-que-elecciones-sean-controladas-por-el-ejecutivo/>

"Some eight security guards of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, UNAH, beat the psychology student Kevin Cubas, when he was observing the drawing of lots for the local electoral boards and the technical commission, in the framework of the student elections to be held next October. While assaulting him, helped by seven other guards, one guard said "we must educate these MEU [student organization]", this September 6, 2021."

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3254-vuelven-a-las-andadas-hay-que-educar-a-estos-del-meu-dice-guardia-de-seguridad-mientras-golpeaba-a-estudiante>

So far, there have been 348'894 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9224 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-roza-los-349-mil-contagios-y-suma-9-mil-224-muertes-por-la-covid-19/>

The move by the Nationalist-controlled Congress to declare the vaccine purchases by the JOH regime a state secret for 10 years is widely criticized.

The Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP) even warns that the approved decree now allows the Ministry of Health to declare all its purchases a secret.

<https://confidencialhn.com/contratos-con-farmaceuticas-protegen-patentes-de-vacunas-no-costos-de-compra-asegura-suyapa-figueroa/>

<https://twitter.com/cnahonduras/status/1435648690610450433>

<https://criterio.hn/reserva-de-informacion-en-vacunas-ata-cabos-de-la-impunidad-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/decreto-del-cn-ha-dado-la-llave-a-salud-para-que-todo-lo-que-compren-vaya-a-reserva-iaip/>

El Pulso reports that there is an increasing in illiteracy in Honduras.

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/08/continua-el-aumento-de-analfabetismo-en-honduras/>

The UN request \$588 million from donor countries to assist 8.3 million people in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/08/la-onu-pide-588-millones-de-dolares-para-hacer-frente-a-la-pobreza-en-el-trianguulo-norte/>

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/08/la-crisis-social-en-honduras-y-los-caudales-electorales/>

09/09/21

Honduras Daily: Political Prisoners; Tolupán; Campesines; Corruption - National Party; Journalists - ZEDES; Femicides; COVID-19 - Vaccines, Mobile Hospitals; Elections; and Berta Multiplied...

The Honduras Solidarity Network launched a petition calling on Honduran authorities to drop the false charges against defenders Edwin Espinal and Raúl Álvarez. "On September 13 and 14th at 9:30 am, Honduran human rights defenders Edwin Espinal and Raúl Álvarez will stand trial on charges stemming from the 2017 electoral crisis. If found guilty, they will be sent back to prison from between 15 to 30 years! As a result of these trumped up charges, Edwin and Raúl spent 19 months in a maximum-security prison from January 2018 to August 2019. In prison, Edwin and Raúl faced death threats, were put in isolation for several weeks, and were mixed with the general prison population. Following their release, both have continued to sign before a judge every week and their trial has been postponed several times."

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1436001571955826689>

OACNUDH will observe the hearing against the 9 criminalized indigenous Tolupán leaders which starts today.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1436158340397244427>

OACNUDH also expressed concern about the recent violent eviction of campesines in Guaimaca, Francisco Morazán (see previous day).

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1435949113665859584>

"The Public Prosecutor's Office, through the Specialized Prosecutor's Unit Against Corruption Networks (Uferco), requested information on the companies related to the nationalist congresswoman Gladys Aurora López, as well as her family."

<https://proceso.hn/uferco-pide-informacion-sobre-negocios-de-diputada-nacionalista-gladys-aurora-lopez/>

"Journalist Deyni Menjivar denounced this weekend threats by a member of private security, while she was covering a citizens' protest in San Pedro Sula, department of Cortés."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/portada-alertas/1388-periodista-amenazada-por-cubrir-protesta-que-denuncia-danos-ambientales-en-proyecto-habitacional>

Journalist Héctor Madrid received threats after reporting on the problems with ZEDEs.

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/portada-alertas/1386-periodista-recibe-amenazas-por-informar-sobre-zedes-en-zona-norte-hondurena>

"The University Institute for Democracy, Peace and Security (Iudpas), together with the United Nations, presented its latest academic effort related to the media's view of violence against women and girls, and it reflects that although the issue has become part of the media, among its challenges is to advance in the informative recording of the facts to move on to deeper stories, where the cases are not just data, because behind each event, there are human stories to be explored."

A new investigation shows that up to 75% of femicides that were committed between 2010 and 2019 could be linked to organized crime.

<https://proceso.hn/la-violencia-de-genero-desde-la-mirada-de-los-medios/>

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-74-8-de-femicidios-entre-2010-y-2019-podrian-estar-ligados-al-crimen-organizado/>

So far, there have been 350'020 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9260 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-9260-muertes-y-350020-casos-por-la-covid-19/>

Another 105'000 Pfizer vaccine doses arrived in Honduras. In total 1.2 million out of the 4.4. million purchased doses have arrived.

According to the health authorities, more than 30% of Hondurans don't intend to get vaccinated.

<https://confidencialhn.com/llega-lote-de-105-mil-vacunas-pfizer-de-210-mil-que-se-recibiran-esta-semana/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/sesal-lamenta-que-mas-del-30-de-la-poblacion-no-quiera-vacunarse/>

After a successful evidentiary hearing in the mobile hospital corruption case, the trial will start on November 30.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/admiten-mayoria-de-prueba-del-mp-y-senalan-para-el-30-de-noviembre-el-juicio-por-el-megafraude-de-los-hospitales-moviles/>

<https://proceso.hn/admiten-100-pruebas-para-juicio-en-caso-hospitales-moviles-que-sera-del-30-de-noviembre-al-10-de-diciembre/>

The 14 presidential candidates are allowed to spend up to almost 400 million Lempiras for their electoral campaigns.

<https://criterio.hn/politicos-de-honduras-tendran-una-millonaria-chequera-para-gastar-en-campana-electoral/>

... in nature and art.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1436023199737827328>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3188-honduras-cientificos-inmortalizan-ambientalistas-asesinados-con-escarabajos>

<https://copinh.org/2021/09/concurso-artes-para-berta/>

10/09/21

Honduras Daily: Tolupán; HRDs; Elections - CNE, OAS, Survey, Clientelism; COVID-19; Corruption - IHSS; Budget; Drug Trafficking – Soccer;

Great news, the nine criminalized indigenous Tolupán defenders had the charges dropped against them.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/contexto/item/3256-despues-de-3-anos-libertad-definitiva-para-nueve-indigenas-tolupanes>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1436455926739898370>

"Hermin López Martínez, a renowned human rights defender from the department of La Paz, denounced that he is a victim of persecution, surveillance and threats, for which his life is in danger. Hermin, who is a member of the network of Lenca Indigenous Human Rights Defenders of La Paz

(Redil-paz) and is currently coordinator of the Independent Lenca Indigenous Movement of La Paz, Honduras (MILPAH), went to the Committee for the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH) to denounce the facts."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/defensor-de-derechos-humanos-de-la-paz-denuncia-persecucion-y-amenazas-por-su-labor/>

CESPAD published an important analysis on the electoral reforms and who benefited most from them.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/10/los-intentos-del-partido-de-gobierno-para-boicotear-las-elecciones-2021-en-honduras/>

The Nationalist representative at the National Electoral Council (CNE) Kelvin Aguirre took over the presidency of the institution. This gives the National Party even more control over the elections. "Cespad considers that the handling of the reforms and the increase of the CNE budget, from the National Congress, was a political calculation on the part of the governing party to fail to comply with the electoral calendar, and thus disrupt the necessary gear for the smooth running of the process, in view of the November 28 elections. Besides, there is a persistent attempt to subordinate the electoral body to the Executive Branch as a way or a preconceived plan to affect the elections. The CNE must, now, accelerate the process and, as far as possible, move towards the establishment of elections that, although they generate citizen distrust, are close to the standard of good practices for the strengthening of democracy."

<https://criterio.hn/ana-paola-hall-entrega-presidencia-del-cne-y-advierte-no-aceptara-injerencias-del-ejecutivo/>

As with the previous general elections, they will be observed by the OAS.

UN Resident Coordinator Alice H. Shackelford sees this as a sign to be optimistic about the elections. The role of the OAS in the last election does not fill me with the same hope.

<https://proceso.hn/la-oea-observara-las-elecciones-de-noviembre-proximo-en-honduras/>

<https://twitter.com/aliceshackel/status/1436465676449943552>

Nationalist presidential candidate Nasry Asfura leads a CID Gallup poll before Libre's Xiomara Castro.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1491895-410/cid-gallup-nasry-asfura-presidente-elecciones-honduras-2021>

FOSDEH published a report on clientelism in Honduras in view of the general elections.

<https://fosdeh.com/publicacion/clientelismo-el-lucro-politico-que-convive-con-la-pobreza/>

<https://criterio.hn/nacionalistas-generan-clientelismo-politico-desviando-fondos-que-no-son-para-los-mas-pobres/>

So far, there have been 350'879 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9319 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-acumula-350-mil-879-casos-y-9-mil-319-decesos-por-covid-19/>

Another doctor, Carlos Alberto Lanza Zapata, died to COVID-19.

<https://proceso.hn/muere-por-covid-19-medico-en-centro-asistencial-en-la-lima/>

The IHSS corruption trial will continue on Monday.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/el-13-de-septiembre-se-retoma-audiencia-inicial-por-fraude-de-158-millones-de-lempiras-en-el-ihss/>

The 2022 budget has been approved by the Council of Ministers, it rose to over 300 billion Lempiras.

That is over 20 billion Lempiras higher and again it mostly benefits the security and defense sectors.

There is a fear of future tax increases.

<https://confidencialhn.com/consejo-de-ministros-aprueba-proyecto-de-presupuesto-de-la-republica-2022-por-l-308233-6-millones/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/tasa-de-seguridad-sirve-para-escoltar-funcionarios-no-para-proteger-al-dueno-de-una-pulperia-del-cobro-de-extorsion-senala-abogado/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ante-aumento-al-presupuesto-2022-economistas-advierten-nuevo-paquetazo/>

The Pro Honduras Network reports on the role of drug trafficking money in Honduran soccer.

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2019/12/11/futbol-hondureno-financiado-por-el-narcotrafico-y-la-corrupcion/>

11/09/21

Honduras Daily: Congress; COVID-19 - Vaccines, Elections;

There are more and more voices calling for the elimination of the substitute congresswo/men. "Orellana declared that "it is absolutely necessary that the issue of the substitutes be part of the next government. Their permanent participation in the National Congress must be eliminated, because they are corruptible by the board of directors and are at the disposal of the Legislative head".

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/11/surgen-opiniones-a-favor-de-eliminar-al-diputado-suplente-nacionalistas-rechazan-idea/>

Honduras received a second vaccine donation from Mexico, 150'000 doses AstraZeneca.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-recibe-una-segunda-donacion-de-150000-dosis-de-vacunas-de-mexico/>

Medical experts fear the impact of the electoral campaign, especially large gatherings, on the pandemic.

<https://proceso.hn/medicos-hondurenos-preocupados-por-actos-politicos-como-focos-de-la-covid-19/>

12/09/21

Honduras Daily: Political Prisoners; Prisons; Drug Trafficking – JOH;

Today, the trial of Edwin Espinal and Raúl Álvarez starts.

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1437239069965045760>

"Honduras' prisons concentrate 20,897 inmates distributed in 25 penitentiaries, a figure that implies 261% overcrowding in a system capable of housing 8,000 inmates."

<https://proceso.hn/carceles-hacinadas-en-216-en-honduras/>

"Cousins Otto René Salgado Morales and Ronald Enrique Salguero Portillo, of Guatemalan origin and confessed drug traffickers, have testified against Honduran President Juan Hernández, implicating him in their illicit activities in a new trial held in the Southern District Court of New York. The new case, which implicates the Honduran president in large-scale cocaine trafficking to the United States, exposes the \$1 million bribe allegedly given by former Sinaloa Cartel leader Joaquin El Chapo Guzman to finance Hernandez's rise to power in exchange for facilitating the importation of the drug from Nicaragua to Guatemala. This is not the first time that allusion is made to the bribe that Chapo Guzman would have paid, since this fact was known in October 2019 when the US prosecutor, Jason Richman, revealed that Guzman gave a million dollars in bribes to Tony Hernandez, brother of the president of Honduras, so that he would deliver them to the now president of Honduras to finance his political campaign."

<https://criterio.hn/narcos-guatemaltecos-vinculan-a-juan-hernandez-en-nuevo-juicio-en-nueva-york/>

13/09/21

Honduras Daily: HR-Situation; Political Prisoners; HRDs - Assassinations; Indigenous Peoples; ZEDEs; Extractivism; COVID-19 - Health Sector, Vaccines, Corruption, Poverty; IMF; Elections - Drug Trafficking, Survey; and Another Strike by the Transport Sector

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

foro_honduras_suiza@riseup.net

https://honduras-forum.ch/wordpress/?smd_process_download=1&download_id=27615

Aqui Abajo published a summary of the first day of trial in the case of Edwin and Raúl. "For observers, including myself, the main prosecutor, Juan Carlos Elvir stumbled through the technical arguments as to why the prosecution was charging Edwin and Raul with the above listed crimes. It was also obvious that the prosecution had not reviewed the entire legal file, did not prepare the first

two witnesses, and struggled to make basic legal arguments specific to the case." The trial will continued today at 9.30am.

<https://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2021/9/13/day-one-edwin-and-rauls-trial>

OACNUDH laments a recent judicial decision to not allow the defenders Santos Vijil and Víctor Vásquez to await their trial outside prison. "OACNUDH has accompanied the process and recalls that 4 UN Special Rapporteurs mentioned that the accusations do not seem to be supported by objective evidence and would represent a criminalization of the right to freedom of association and expression."

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1437584466814377986>

Global Witness published its newest yearly report on the assassination of human rights defenders. They documented 17 murdered HRDs in Honduras in 2020, Honduras still belong to the deadliest countries for HRDs.

<https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/last-line-defence/>

"Some 120 [indigenous Lenca] families who have lived since 1739 in the community of Tierras del Padre, 13 kilometers from the capital of Honduras, are under threat of being dispossessed of their land after Judge 9 of the Criminal Court of Tegucigalpa ordered the eviction of 322 manzanas of land on October 14."

<https://criterio.hn/habitantes-de-tierras-del-padre-a-punto-de-ser-desalojados-de-sus-tierras-ancestrales/>

La Prensa reports on the planed ZEDE Ciudad Morazán.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/1492388-410/ciudad-moraz%C3%A1n-adquiere-m%C3%A1s-hect%C3%A1reas-y-ampliar%C3%A1-capital-de-inversi%C3%B3n>

CESPAD reports on the ongoing support of the JOH regime of extractive projects well aware of their numerous human rights violations.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/13/analisis-pese-a-la-infraccion-de-los-derechos-humanos-gobierno-de-honduras-sigue-apoyando-los-proyectos-hidroelectricos-y-mineros-en-el-pais/>

So far, there have been 353'641 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9370 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-2-mil-762-nuevos-casos-y-51-decesos-por-covid-19/>

Employees at the University Hospital held a protest rally.

<https://confidencialhn.com/empleados-del-hospital-escuela-realizan-protesta-en-exigencia-de-distintas-demandas/>

The vaccination of 15-17 year-olds started in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/sesal-inicia-vacunacion-de-adolescentes-entre-15-a-17-anos/>

The CNA published a new report highlighting abuse of authority by the Minister of Health. They also filed a complaint at the MP.

"[T]he document presents corruption networks in the health agency, in the form of appointments and contracts to Flores' sons, daughter-in-law and other close circles."

<https://twitter.com/cnahonduras/status/1437450676599197706>

<https://confidencialhn.com/cna-interpondra-denuncia-contrala-titular-de-salud-por-abuso-de-autoridad/>

El Heraldo agrees with a statement made by Salvador Nasralla that Honduras is the poorest country in the region with 70% living in poverty and 53.4% living in extreme poverty. Poverty has increased by 70% in 2020.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/factchecking/1492537-504/salvador-nasralla-asegura-honduras-pais-mas-pobre-de-centroamerica>

The IMF approved another \$215.8 million loan for the JOH regime - Honduras credit line at the IMF rose to \$773 million.

<https://proceso.hn/el-fmi-aprueba-ampliar-en-215-8-millones-de-dolares-su-prestamo-a-honduras/>

The RNP has still to hand out over 1.1 million new identity cards until the general elections.

Libre commissioner Óscar Rivera who assumed its presidency yesterday is hopeful that they will succeed.

<https://confidencialhn.com/1-millon-184-mil-886-dni-faltan-por-entregar-previo-a-elecciones-generales/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/oscar-rivera-asume-presidencia-del-rnp-garantiza-a-la-ciudadania-entrega-de-dni-previo-a-elecciones-generales/>

US Congressman Greg Steube tweeted: "Convicted felon and money launderer Yani Benjamin Rosenthal Hidalgo is attempting to become the President of Honduras after being released from U.S. federal prison. I urged the State Department to stand firm against corruption and condemn Rosenthal's efforts to gain power."

<https://twitter.com/RepGregSteube/status/1437433668767817729>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/13/congresista-de-ee-uu-reafirma-acusaciones-contr-rosenthal-y-el-candidato-le-responde/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/yani-rosenthal-pide-a-congresista-estadounidense-pare-la-difamacion-que-tanto-dano-hace-a-nuestra-sociedad/>

Another survey (see two days ago), this time by Tecnimercck, has Xiomara Castro as the winner of the presidency.

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/13/xiomara-castro-ganaria-elecciones-y-crece-rechazo-a-asfura-segun-encuesta/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/transportistas-de-todos-los-rubros-anuncian-paro-nacional-a-partir-de-este-martes/>

14/09/21

Honduras Daily: Political Prisoners; HRDs - Guapinol; Violence against Women; Journalists; Dengue; COVID-19 - Health System, Poverty; Elections; National Police; and "Independence"

The trial against Edwin and Raúl continued yesterday.

It was accompanied by protests outside the court demanding their freedom.

The trial will continue Friday at 1:30pm.

<https://twitter.com/EdwinLibertad/status/1437828342489694212>

<https://twitter.com/EdwinLibertad/status/1437801000291684358>

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1437888390758912013>

The National Women Human Rights Defenders Network sent out an urgent alert denouncing acts of intimidation against Guapinol defender Juana Ramona Zúñiga taking place last Saturday.

<https://im-defensoras.org/2021/09/alerta-defensoras-patrullas-de-la-policia-nacional-hostigan-y-vigilan-a-defensora-en-su-casa-de-habitacion-en-la-comunidad-de-guapinol/>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3257-por-que-la-policia-vigila-a-monchi>

According to the Center for Women's Rights, the level of violence against women is further increasing. So far this year, there have been almost 46'000 reports of violence and 174 femicides.

Radio Progreso calls for the declaration of a national emergency.

<https://confidencialhn.com/contabilizan-45-mil-969-denuncias-por-violencia-y-174-asesinatos-contra-mujeres-en-2021/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/np/que-mas-hace-falta-para-que-se-declare-emergencia-nacional%E2%80%9C%BC/>

"Journalist Kevin Villatoro, reported to C-Libre that he was the victim of threats by a member of the private security of a housing project in San Pedro Sula, department of Cortés."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/index.php/portada-alertas/1389-segundo-periodista-denuncia-amenazas-por-seguridad-privada-de-proyecto-habitacional>

More than 7000 dengue cases have been documented so far this year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mas-de-7-mil-casos-de-dengue-se-reportan-hasta-semana-epidemiologica-34/>

So far, there have been 354'970 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9400 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-otros-mil-329-casos-de-covid-19-y-30-decesos/>

Radio Progreso reports on the ongoing protest by health workers demanding permanent employment.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/trabajadores-de-salud-reclaman-su-plaza/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/soy-primera-linea-no-familia-medicos-protestan-exigiendo-plazas/>

The deputy director of the World Food Program in Honduras, Etienne Labande, expressed concern about the rising poverty levels in Honduras (see also yesterday). The number of people living in poverty is estimated to rise to 4.4 million by the end of the year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/la-inseguridad-alimentaria-casi-se-ha-duplicado-en-honduras-por-pandemia-pma/>

ContraCorriente takes a closer look at Smartmatic, the company chosen by the CNE to be responsible for the biometric system for the general elections.

"The Electoral Justice Tribunal (TJE) continues to operate without the approval by the National Congress of the Electoral Justice Procedural Law to settle conflicts in electoral matters, while operating with a meager budget."

Similarly, Criterio reports that the promise of clean politics is still unfulfilled. "According to the report published by the Centro de Estudio para la Democracia (Cespad), on the proposals of the Law of Financing, Transparency and Control of Political Parties and Candidates, the political loopholes of the law are established in four areas: the prohibition of illicit financial sources; the prohibition of public funds, electoral publicity and the deficiencies of the law in terms of transparency and access to public information."

Only 64% of electoral candidates have presented their financial statements on campaign expenses.

At the same time, the new president of the CNE promises that the first results of the general elections will be known three hours after the closing of the polling stations.

<https://contracorriente.red/2021/09/14/smartmatic-se-encargara-del-sistema-biometrico-en-elecciones-de-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/tje-maniatado-con-raquitico-presupuesto-y-sin-ley-de-justicia-electoral/>

<https://criterio.hn/la-promesa-de-una-politica-limpia-sigue-quedando-en-papel/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1492784-410/honduras-aspirantes-elecciones-primarias-rendicion-cuentas-generales-politicos>

<https://tiempo.hn/cne-los-primeros-resultados-estaran-3-horas-despues-del-cierre/>

Two police agents working as prison guards were arrested accused of drug trafficking.

<https://proceso.hn/capturan-a-policias-penitenciarios-por-trafico-de-drogas-agravado-en-la-paz/>

Honduras (and the region) commemorate today 200 years of "independece". For many, real independence has still not been fulfilled.

There are also protest announced for today, especially against the ZEDEs, the clearest manifestation of a lack of independence in recent history.

Proceso Digital published several articles on the occasion.

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/independencia-sigue-siendo-una-deuda-historica-julio-navarro/>

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/anuncian-protestas-en-el-dia-del-bicentenario/>

<https://proceso.hn/bicentenario/>

15/09/21

Honduras Daily: ZEDEs; LGBTQ+; Political Prisoners; "Independence"; Migration - US; BCIE - Suiza; Drug Trafficking;

On Friday, the people of San Francisco de Opalaca will hold a town hall meeting to reject the ZEDEs.

CESPAD documented how the town hall in El Triunfo took place.

There are also several articles on yesterday's protest marches against the ZEDEs, linked to the 200-year commemoration of "independence".

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1438195283788173312>

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/15/asi-fue-como-el-triunfo-se-declaro-libre-de-las-zede/>

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/poblacion-hondurena-se-moviliza-en-defensa-de-la-soberania-en-el-dia-del-bicentenario/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1493011-466/libre-marcha-oposicion-bulevar-morazan-parque-central-bicentenario-no-zede-independencia>

<https://criterio.hn/opositores-protestan-contras-las-zede-y-gobierno-despliega-militares-y-policias-en-bicentenario/>

The Times chose Honduran LGBTQ+ activist Indyra Mendoza and Claudia Spellmant among the 100 most influential people of 2021. "In countries throughout Latin America, transgender people are left with an impossible choice: stay and risk being killed, or leave everything behind. Vicky Hernández chose to stay, and paid for that decision with her life. Her murder during the 2009 Honduran coup d'état came to symbolize the pervasive structural violence that trans women continue to face to this day. Indyra Mendoza and Claudia Spellmant, as activists and LGBTQ+ women themselves, spent years working to demand justice for Vicky, bravely pushing back against

a discriminatory society that has repeatedly put their lives at risk. Our legal team at Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights joined them in this pursuit of justice."

<https://time.com/collection/100-most-influential-people-2021/6095955/indyra-mendoza-claudia-spellmant/>

<https://proceso.hn/dos-hondurenas-entre-personajes-mas-influyentes-del-2021-segun-times/>

Aqui Abajo published the summary of Day 2 of the trial against Edwin and Raúl.

<https://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2021/9/15/day-two-edwin-and-rals-trial>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/inicia-juicio-contr-a-edwin-espinal-y-raul-alvarez-presos-politicos-de-crisis-post-electoral-2017/>

Yesterday's "independence" commemoration led to various comments. "They are 200 years of a policy of "prevention" led by the political and economic elites, fearful of "the consequences" if the people decide to proclaim something different from their interests. From this fear was born the "identity" of the Central American elites, who for two centuries have distrusted the popular sectors. But at the same time these elites behave servile before the external powers. They are hard with the popular sectors, and soft and servile with the external powers."

COPINH wrote: "We the peoples have more than 200 years of oppression, dispossession and violence. We continue to fight against continuism, against this racist, capitalist and patriarchal system, under a dictatorial regime."

The State Department sent out a press release. And while they denounced the situation in Nicaragua, no word was lost about the JOH regime.

Meanwhile in Honduras, the people took to the streets against the JOH regime, while the latter celebrated itself and sending a show of force with the Armed Forces.

JOH said on the occasion that this will be one of his last public speeches.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/np/o-patio-trasero-o-una-patria-centroamericana/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1438249069990891521>

<https://www.state.gov/bicentennial-of-independence-in-central-america/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3201-dos-honduras-conmemoran-bicentenario>

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-dice-en-bicentenario-de-honduras-que-esta-al-final-de-su-mandato-y-que-sera-uno-de-sus-ultimos-discursos/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1493038-466/discurso-juan-orlando-hernandez-desfiles-bicentenario-15-septiembre-honduras>

Border agents in the US found a three-month Honduran baby and its two-year old sister abandoned close to Eagle Pass, Texas.

<https://proceso.hn/hallan-a-bebe-hondurena-de-3-meses-y-su-hermana-de-2-anos-abandonados-en-rio-fronterizo/>

"The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE) announced Wednesday that it issued the first social bond for US\$218 million in the Swiss market, on the occasion of the bicentennial of Central America's independence from the Spanish crown."

<https://proceso.hn/el-bcie-coloca-218-millones-de-dolares-en-primer-bono-social-en-suiza/>

"The US justice system has appointed a new defense team for Honduran drug trafficker Geovanny Fuentes Ramirez."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1492923-466/designan-nuevo-abogado-narcotraficante-geovanny-fuentes>

16/09/21

Honduras Daily: Journalists; OFRANEH - Cayos Cochinos; Moskitia - Armed Forces; HRDs; National Police; ZEDEs; Corruption - Congress; Elections; COVID-19 - Vaccines; Drug Trafficking;

Journalist Bryan Hernández was violently arrested by the police when he was reporting on an act of police abuse. The police agents pretended arresting him for wrong parking.

Hernández was held for almost 9 hours before being released again.

"OACNUDH calls on police authorities to review their protocols for administrative detentions for misdemeanors, which, in the case of communicators, would also violate the exercise of freedom of expression."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/por-denunciar-abuso-policial-capturan-a-periodista-en-tegucigalpa/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3202-honduras-bestial-policias-de-transito-agreden-y-exhiben-periodista-por-estacionar-mal>

<https://proceso.hn/periodista-bryan-hernandez-fue-liberado-tras-permanecer-detenido-cerca-de-nueve-horas/>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1438691462292688897>

OFRANEH will be awarded the Letelier-Moffitt Award on September 20.

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1438492083384471557>

The Garífuna communities in Chachauate and Nueva Armenia denounce acts of deforestation on the Cayo Menor island by the Cayos Cochinos Foundation.

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1438554782155804674>

Members of the Armed Forces shot at alleged drug traffickers from a helicopter in Juan Francisco Bulnes, Gracias a Dios. El Herald reports of seven injured.

El Libertador claims that there were 9 injured and even two deaths.

The local community was terrorized by the incident.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1493315-466/mosquitia-enfrentamiento-militares-narcos-honduras-heridos>

<https://confidencialhn.com/varios-heridos-en-enfrentamiento-tras-asegurar-una-narcolancha-en-la-mosquitia/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3203-honduras-unos-nueve-civiles-heridos-y-dos-muertos-en-operativo-antidroga-de-ff-aa>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1438659978072510470>

"Mayan Chortí defender María Santos González was arrested at 7:00 a.m. this morning and taken to the Police Directorate of Investigations (DPI) in Copán Ruinas, along with her son."

<https://im-defensoras.org/2021/09/alerta-defensoras-honduras-detienen-arbitrariamente-por-delito-sobreseido-a-maria-santos-gonzalez-miembra-de-la-coordinacion-de-la-conaminh/>

OACNUDH visited various police stations to verify the conditions of detainees.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1438675642011295745>

Another community, Tocoa, Colón, declared itself free of ZEDEs.

<https://proceso.hn/municipio-de-tocoa-colon-dice-no-a-la-instalacion-de-zedes/>

CESPAD reports on how the virtual sessions at Congress are used for acts of corruption.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/16/analisis-las-sesiones-virtuales-una-nueva-forma-para-continuar-con-la-corrupcion-y-la-impunidad-desde-el-congreso-nacional-de-honduras/>

The Libre mayoral candidate in San Luís, Santa Bárbara, Rommel Rivera, fears for his life. He was attacked on September 5 and received a shot in the foot.

As the distribution of the new ID card has not been completed, there is the fear that voting with both the old and new ID card will be allowed and lead to acts of fraud.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/santa-barbara-aspirante-a-alcalde-teme-por-su-vida/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/16/experto-advierte-que-se-podrian-usar-dos-identidades-para-las-elecciones-generales/>

So far, there have been 356'707 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9452 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-356707-casos-de-covid-19-y-9452-fallecidos/>

210'600 additional Pfizer vaccine doses arrived in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-recibe-nuevo-lote-de-210-mil-600-dosis-de-pfizer-contra-la-covid-19/>

"By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 706(1) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228) (FRAA), I hereby identify the following countries as major drug transit or major illicit drug producing countries: Afghanistan, The Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Burma, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Laos, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela."

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/09/15/a-memorandum-for-the-secretary-of-state-on-presidential-determination-on-major-drug-transit-or-major-illicit-drug-producing-countries-for-fiscal-year-2022/>

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-senalado-por-joe-biden-como-pais-de-transito-y-produccion-de-drogas/>

17/09/21

Honduras Daily: SUNLA; Political Prisoners; Berta - Trial; Journalists; Moskitia - Armed Forces; Garífuna; Elections - OAS; COVID-19 - Vaccines, Poverty; National Police - Keyla; Corruption - de Lobo; and Investing in Anti-Corruption

This morning at 8am Honduran time, a workshop will take place online on "How can affected families and communities achieve justice? The example of the Garifuna SUNLA committee in Honduras".

<https://www.oeku-buero.de/details/desaparicion-forzada-como-pueden-alcanzar-justicia-las-familias-y-comunidades-afectadas-el-ejemplo-del-comite-garifuna-sunla-en-honduras.html>

Raúl and Edwin were found not guilty! A great victory after a long and very taxing struggle.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1439005714651942914>

Almost two and a half months have passed since the guilty verdict for David Castillo in the Berta Cáceres case, but no sentence has been emitted.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1438907616932028422>

Journalist Brayan Hernández talked with El Tiempo about the violent arrest he suffered (see yesterday).

<https://tiempo.hn/periodista-brayan-hernandez-detenido-video/>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3258-periodista-en-libertad-despues-de-unas-9-horas-de-detencion>

In a press release about Thursday's helicopter shooting in the Moskitia, the Armed Forces recognized that there were four injured. But the representative of Masta, Modesto Morales, claims that two Miskita died.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/1493490-466/video-saqueo-lancha-mosquitia-narcotraficantes-honduras>

"On Thursday, September 16, 2021, members of the National Police and the Police Investigation Directorate (DPI) arrived at the Garifuna community of Waba To and Barauda in the Garifuna colony Julio Lino de Trujillo, Colón, with the order to evict the young Antonia Portillo, according to a complaint made by OFRANEH through the Garífuna Comunicador."

<https://im-defensoras.org/2021/09/alerta-urgente-honduras-policia-nacional-intenta-desalojar-comunidad-garifuna-de-waba-to/>

UNDP representative Richard Barathe claims that thanks to the Identify Yourself project, Honduras now has a data base of its citizens with a reliability rate of over 99%.

<https://proceso.hn/proyecto-identificate-permite-una-tasa-de-confiabilidad-del-99-de-la-base-de-datos-asegura-representante-del-pnud/>

This week it was announced that the OAS will observe the Honduran elections. Criterio now published an article highlighting the dubious role of the OAS in past Honduran elections.

<https://criterio.hn/cuestionan-envio-de-mision-electoral-de-la-oea/>

Another batch of Pfizer vaccine doses, 52'650, arrived in Honduras.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-recibe-mas-de-52-mil-dosis-de-la-vacuna-de-pfizer/>

CESPAD juxtaposes the rise in poverty in Honduras with the spending on anti-poverty measures. "With a financing system based on the deepening of the foreign debt, social assistance projects have marked certain tendencies such as the decrease in salaries, the concentration of profits and the instrumentalization of these for electoral political purposes. Many of these programs, according to Pino, "are being managed through trusts, with a very non-transparent use of expenditure control and, therefore, it is partly an indirect mechanism for buying votes and partly a source of corruption because a good percentage of these resources have to go to private hands".

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/17/asi-ha-evolucionado-la-pobreza-en-honduras-y-el-dinero-para-erradicarla/>

A member of the National Police was found guilty of bribery and abuse of authority.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/condenan-a-policia-por-soborno-y-abuso-de-autoridad/>

CESPAD has an update on the case against the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/17/analisis-el-juicio-de-la-ex-primera-dama-y-las-elecciones-generales-en-honduras/>

"The coordinator of the Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared of Honduras (Cofadeh), Berta Oliva, declared that the judicial bodies are seeking to leave the case of the death of Keyla Martinez in impunity by changing the classification of the crime."

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/17/cofadeh-denuncia-que-autoridades-buscan-dejar-impune-la-muerte-de-keyla-martinez/>

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1439067010336362497

18/09/21

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Political Prisoners; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Elections - TJE; Armed Forces - Moskitia; COVID-19 - Health Sector, Children; Migration – US;

"The international organization for the protection of human rights "Peace Brigades International" (PBI) requests the UN Human Rights Council to immediately issue the sentence against David Castillo."

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1439289220955348993>

OACNUDH welcomes that the charges against Edwin and Raúl were dropped (see yesterday).

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1439315685692293127>

JOH used a speech at the recent CELAC summit as an opportunity to present him once again as the victim of false accusations by drug traffickers.

He went on for so long that he had to be stopped by an assistant.

CELAC: <https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/entre-ausencias-y-sorpresas-inicia-cumbre-de-celac-en-mexico/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/18/el-presidente-de-honduras-denuncia-falsos-testimonios-de-cortes-de-eeuu/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3208-honduras-presidentes-de-america-latina-cortan-discurso-de-joh>

With 2:1 vote, the Libre and Liberal magistrates at the CNE rejected the incorporation of the Nationalist Jesús Mejía as a consultant.

The CNE looks at the possibility to reuse the "maletas electorales" from the 2017 election.

<https://tiempo.hn/rechazan-contratar-a-jesus-mejia-asesor-cne/>

<https://tiempo.hn/cne-maletas-electorales-reutilizadas-elecciones-2021/>

Electoral Justice Tribunal (TJE) magistrate Enrique Reina had to once again call on Congress to have them finally approve the Procedural Law of the Electoral Justice Tribunal.

<https://proceso.hn/magistrado-reina-pide-nuevamente-aprobacion-del-ley-del-tje/>

The MP will investigate the shooting at the Laguna Ibans community in the Moskitia (see previous two days).

<https://tiempo.hn/fiscalia-investigacion-tiroteo-en-la-mosquitia/>

The situation at Honduras' hospitals is still very tense and as elsewhere, 90% of those being treated for COVID-19 have not been vaccinated.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1493567-466/repunte-casos-coronavirus-pacientes-hospitalizacion-honduras-covid>

Proceso Digital reports on how the COVID-19 pandemic as well as dengue affects children in Honduras.

<https://proceso.hn/menores-victimas-del-dengue-y-covid-19-en-honduras/>

Spain donated 180'000 AstraZeneca doses to Honduras.

<https://twitter.com/EmbEspHonduras/status/1439354834013069313>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1493700-466/espana-dona-vacunas-covid-honduras-astrazeneca-pandemia-covax>

"The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is immediately implementing a new, comprehensive strategy to address the increase in migrant encounters in the Del Rio sector of South Texas. It has six key components. (...) The majority of migrants continue to be expelled under CDC's Title 42 authority. Those who cannot be expelled under Title 42 and do not have a legal basis to remain will be placed in expedited removal proceedings. DHS is conducting regular expulsion and removal flights to Haiti, Mexico, Ecuador, and Northern Triangle countries. Beyond the six steps outlined above, the Biden Administration has reiterated that our borders are not open, and people should not make the dangerous journey. Individuals and families are subject to border restrictions, including expulsion. Irregular migration poses a significant threat to the health and welfare of border communities and to the lives of migrants themselves, and should not be attempted."

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2021/09/18/dhs-outlines-strategy-address-increase-migrants-del-rio>

<https://proceso.hn/ee-uu-recuerda-que-su-frontera-no-esta-abierta-e-incrementa-deportaciones>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/mundo/1493722-466/estados-unidos-aumentara-vuelos-deportacion-inmigrantes-varados-texas>

19/09/21

Honduras Daily: SSF - Keyla; Transparency; Corruption - SEDIS; COVID-19; Femicide; Drug Trafficking; Elections - Armed Forces, Financing; and the Cabbage Invasion

Recently denounced by COFADEH, now even Proceso Digital reports about it. "An appeals court in Comayagua, decided to change the classification of the crime in the case of the crime of Keyla Martinez. The action could prevent the State of Honduras from being brought into an international lawsuit for the extrajudicial execution of Martinez that occurred in a police station, as typified by the United Nations Minnesota Protocol, to which Honduras is a signatory. The Minnesota Protocol was adopted in 1991 and establishes a common standard of performance in the investigation of a potentially wrongful death or suspected enforced disappearance, as well as a common set of principles and guidelines for states, institutions and individuals involved in the special investigation."

<https://proceso.hn/el-estado-contra-las-cuerdas-en-caso-de-keyla-martinez-y-protocolo-de-minnesota/>

Thelma Mejía has an important analysis on the weakening by the JOH regime of the Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP) using the vaccine purchase case as an example (see previous week).

<https://criterio.hn/el-iaip-cada-vez-mas-debilitado/>

"The Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion (Sedis) is the institution promoting the "Vida Mejor" (Better Life) program, the flagship project of the government of Juan Orlando Hernández. In the last three years, Sedis delivered to beneficiaries of social projects more than seven billion lempiras, added to this since 2017 it used almost two billion in agreements with non-governmental organizations. The projects are questioned for corruption and clientelistic purposes."

<https://contracorriente.red/2021/09/07/sedis-la-maquinaría-del-clientelismo/>

Proceso Digital reports that even though Honduras has seen an decrease in occupancy rates at hospitals, the number of deaths remain high.

Additionally, doctor Carlos Umaña warns that infection rates are also still too high and people should not forget about the safety measures.

<https://proceso.hn/bajan-hospitalizaciones-por-covid-pero-cifras-en-muertes-se-conservan-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/contagios-de-covid-19-no-ha-disminuido-advierte-doctor-umana/>

Three young sisters (22, 16 and 14-year old) were murdered in Tegucigalpa.

<https://proceso.hn/matan-a-tres-jovencitas-en-la-capital-hondurena/>

Proceso Digital reports on the recent show of force by drug traffickers in Honduras.

Confidencial reports on an interesting case of a seized boat, allegedly owned by Geovanny Fuentes (convicted of drug trafficking in the US), which he bought from the Liberal mayoral candidate in San Pedro Sula, Roberto Contreras.

<https://proceso.hn/por-aire-mar-y-tierra-el-narco-muestra-sus-tentaculos-en-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/investigan-lancha-que-roberto-contreras-vendio-a-extraditado/>

"The sociologist Pablo Carías questioned the role of the Armed Forces during the general elections of November 28, which he assures could lean in favor of the National Party. "The relationship of the high command of the Armed Forces with the current government is undeniable, they defend it in an unusual way. This makes the population to have some distrust in the functions they have to perform in view of the electoral process, it is probable that they tip the balance to the governing party", he expressed."

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/19/expertos-cuestionan-papel-de-las-ffaa-de-cara-al-proceso-electoral/>

"There are three notable sources of undue financing in the National and Liberal parties in Honduras, two of them clearly illicit: corruption and drug trafficking, and a third, "the party quota", with which the National Party has obtained HNL 717 million (about USD 30 million) from January 2016 to July 2021. This contribution of public employees in addition to being a source of political clientelism, becomes a crime when it is done in an unconsultative manner. This trident has always put the party in office at an abysmal advantage compared to the others."

<https://contracorriente.red/2021/09/16/campanas-politicas-en-honduras-financiadas-por-la-burocracia-estatal/>

"Parts of the protected forest reserve of La Tigra National Park in central Honduras have been cleared to grow produce for Tegucigalpa's dinner tables. Cabbage has become the economic mainstay of a community that settled in the wrong place."

<https://contracorriente.red/en/2021/09/09/cabbage-invasion-tip-of-the-iceberg-in-honduran-environmental-struggle/>

20/09/21

Honduras Daily: Tolupán; Guapinol - UN; HRDs; Femicides; Drug Trafficking - Moskitia, JOH; El Salvador - US; ZEDES; Corruption - IHSS; Elections - Violence; COVID-19 - Elections; Transport Sector; and Honduran Whac-a-Mole

MADJ sent out an alert regarding the situation of the indigenous Tolupán in San Francisco de Locomapa. They fear violence by a company illegally cutting trees.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=4338161109611088&id=896060573821176¬if_t=page_followed_contents_awareness¬if_id=1632015231053202&ref=m_notif

The UN Human Rights Council discussed a report on arbitrary detention yesterday. On this occasion, OACNUDH writes: " One of the central themes of this report is the deprivation of liberty of human rights defenders, indicating that arbitrary detention of defenders is a serious #HR violation that occurs globally and that States must urgently address. OACNUDH reiterates its call to the State of Honduras to implement the Opinion of the Working Group and immediately release the defenders of the #GuapinolCase."

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1440159701421887488>

MADJ reports on a similar case of criminalization. A court in Santa Rosa de Copán dictated alternative measures to prison to 16 human rights defenders from Azacualpa, La Unión, Copán. They have to sign in monthly now at the court as a sign of being subjected to a legal process. "The criminalization process is promoted by the company Minerales de Occidente S.A., MINOSA of Canadian capital, which has harmed the rights of the inhabitants of La Unión, Azacualpa, Copán during the last few years, due to the mining activity it carries out in the vicinity of the communities."

<https://madj.org/2021/09/20/medidas-distintas-a-la-prision-impone-juzgado-a-luchadores-sociales-de-azacualpa-copan-en-honduras/>

According to CONADEH, more than 200 women have suffered a violent death so far this year. This is even more than documented by UNAH's Violence Observatory.

<https://proceso.hn/denuncian-muerte-de-mas-de-200-mujeres-en-honduras-y-piden-frenar-violencia/>

<https://proceso.hn/imparable-muerte-de-mujeres-en-honduras-2/>

"A heavy downpour of live bullets overshadowed the sky of the communities of Ibans and Cocobila in the municipality of Juan Francisco Bulnes, Gracias a Dios, leaving 12 people seriously injured [see last week] and revealing the systematic violence suffered by the Miskito people, in the name of the fight against drug trafficking that the president of Honduras, Juan Orlando Hernandez, is praising."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/ataques-y-violencia-contramiskitos-son-responsabilidad-del-estado-hondureno/>

"César Gastelum Serrano, one of the capos of the Sinaloa cartel bribed Juan Orlando Hernández with two payments of \$500,000 dollars in exchange for protection of cocaine shipments bound for the US, according to Joaquín Pérez, defense attorney for confessed drug trafficker Fredy Nájera Montoya, who is awaiting sentencing next October. These statements appear in the document called Memorandum of Submission filed by Nájera's defense in the Southern District Court of New York."

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2021/09/20/juan-orlando-hernandez-vinculado-nuevamente-al-cartel-de-sinaloa-por-abogado-de-fredy-najera/>

President of El Salvador reacted to a new list with sanctions published by the US and wonders why there is no one from the Honduran government on it.

UFERCO's Luis Santos tweeted: "These sanctions should also be imposed on Honduran officials who obstruct UFERCO's investigations, through legal reforms, by not resolving the appeals filed or by not assigning the budget to the MP to hire the necessary human resources..."

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/1494114-410/bukele-recrimina-eeuu-no-mencione-hondure%C3%B1os-nuevas-sanciones>

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1440142045281095683

Former COHEP president Adolfo Facussé criticizes the JOH regime and its promotion of the ZEDES. ""The Government publishes a minimum of 20 pages of propaganda daily in the written media of the country in favor of the Zedes. At 20 thousand lempiras and in full color, that is 400 thousand per day", he said. He also indicated that this expenditure does not include the investment in television, radio and social media advertisements."

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/20/exjefe-del-cohep-critica-propaganda-estatal-en-zedes-y-pago-de-activistas/>

One of the many IHSS corruption sub-cases, the one against former Vice Minister of Health, Javier Rodolfo Pastor Vásquez and the former Vice Minister of Labor and Social Security, Carlos Montes Rodríguez, went to trial yesterday.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-listo-para-volver-a-probar-coimas-y-lavado-de-ex-viceministros-javier-pastor-y-carlos-montes-en-el-ihss/>

"The "violent speeches of politicians" influence the increase in homicides, according to the director of the Observatory of Violence of the National Autonomous University of Honduras (OV-UNAH), Migdonia Ayestas. The official said that the way politicians speak and the content of the messages they send to citizens, makes "the population become somewhat violent".

<https://confidencialhn.com/violencia-politica-influye-en-el-incremento-de-los-homicidios-segun-directora-del-ov-unah/>

So far, there have been 359'768 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9537 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-reporta-2-mil-114-nuevos-casos-y-46-muertes-por-la-covid-19/>

"The president of the Association of Physicians of the Honduran Social Security Institute (IHSS), Carlos Umaña, revealed on Monday that hospitals are already reporting cases of Covid-19 from those who attended soccer games and political rallies."

<https://confidencialhn.com/hospitales-reportan-casos-covid-19-de-quienes-asistieron-a-partidos-y-concentraciones-politicas/>

A national strike by the transport sector is announced for this morning at 7am.

<https://confidencialhn.com/a-paro-de-labores-el-transporte-urbano-a-nivel-nacional/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/por-cada-narco-pista-que-se-destruye-en-honduras-se-construyen-diez/>

21/09/21

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH; HRDs - Guapinol; COPINH - Spain; Elections; Dengue; COVID-19 - Health Sector; Infrastructure - BCIE; BID;

Journalist Andrew Cockburn made an interesting discovery. "Take this to the bank: Federal prosecutors at @SDNYnews have an indictment of Honduras Narco-Presidente Juan Orlando Hernandez drawn up and ready to go. Surprise! @StateDept is refusing to sign off."

<https://twitter.com/andrewmcockburn/status/1440348084869861379>

Pasos de Animal Grande has more on the recent discussions at the UN Human Rights Council about the Guapinol case (see yesterday).

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3259-consejo-de-derechos-humanos-no-ha-recibido-informe-de-honduras-sobre-recomendaciones-en-la-detencion-arbitraria-de-defensores-de-guapinol>

COPINH met with the Spanish Secretary of State for International Cooperation Pilar Cancela. COPINH denounced that there is still no sentence for David Castillo two months after his conviction in the Berta Cáceres case. Additionally, COPINH emphasized the need to respect the right to prior consultation.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1440451410403872773>

CESPAD analyzes what it means that the National Party, i.e. its magistrate, took over the presidency of the National Electoral Council (CNE) for the time of the general elections. "Today, Kelvin Aguirre, Ana Paola Hall and Rixi Moncada, as members of the CNE Plenary, are the people who organize the general elections and, unanimously or by simple majority, must disclose the preliminary results. They are also the persons who will make the official Declaration of the elections. The presiding councilor may be the one who will be in charge of the television, radio and virtual media, but the content of the official communication and the official decisions will be decided by the Plenary. The fact that there are so many doubts, suspicions and fears among the Honduran citizenry about who presides the CNE at this time is a sign that the institutionality is still under construction and that this should also be a point of reflection that allows for increased oversight, observation and citizen participation in the 2021 electoral process."

Nevertheless, there is an ongoing fear about the interference of JOH as well as the Nationalist-controlled Congress at the CNE. Libre's magistrate at the CNE, Rixi Moncada, speaks of "an enormous interference".

Apart from that, there are further reasons for concern: the implementation of the Preliminary Electoral Results Transmission System (TREP), the integration of the Voting Boards (JRV) and the new Electoral Census.

Last but not least, 439 candidates running in the general elections have not yet filed reports with the Unit for Financing, Transparency and Control of Political Parties and Candidates, also known as the Clean Politics Unit.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/21/analisis-que-significa-que-la-presidencia-del-cne-este-en-manos-del-representante-del-partido-de-gobierno/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/nos-compete-velar-por-el-desarrollo-de-elecciones-pero-es-claro-que-desde-la-presidencia-y-cn-hay-un-nivel-de-injerencia-enorme-contr-el-cne-rix-moncada/>

<https://criterio.hn/consejeras-del-cne-trep-censo-y-juntas-receptoras-generan-certidumbre-en-elecciones/>

<https://proceso.hn/estos-son-los-candidatos-que-incumplieron-ley-de-politica-limpia/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/interactivos/1494314-529/candidatos-informe-politica-limpia-gastos-campana>

Medical experts warn not to forget about dengue. "Through his twitter account, Dr. Carlos Umaña, President of the doctors of the Social Security in San Pedro Sula reminded the health authorities that there have been three weeks of sustained increase in cases of severe dengue fever and no definite prevention actions have been taken."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/dengue-tambien-enciende-las-alarmas/>

So far, there have been 360'598 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9561 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-reporta-830-casos-de-covid-19-y-24-decesos/>

A third doctor, Carlos Roberto Matute, died to COVID-19 this month. Almost 100 doctors have died so far during the pandemic.

<https://proceso.hn/muere-por-covid-19-reconocido-medico-cholomeno-carlos-matute/>

A BCIE delegation visited a road project they support with \$44.2 million.

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/21/bcie-traza-ruta-para-la-construccion-de-nuevo-acceso-vial-a-tegucigalpa/>

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) approved \$118.5 million to consolidate the Central American Customs Union.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/economia/1494456-466/banco-interamericano-desarrollo-prestamo-honduras-bid>

<https://confidencialhn.com/bid-aprueba-118-millones-de-dolares-a-honduras-para-mejorar-competitividad/>

22/09/21

Honduras Daily: COPINH; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Campesines; COVID-19 - Vaccines; Elections - Presidency; and Fearing Another 2017

CESPAD published an analysis of a recent victory by COPINH to be recognized as a victim in the Gualcarque Fraud case.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/22/por-que-el-copinh-y-rio-blanco-fueron-declarados-victima-en-el-caso-de-corrupcion-fraude-sobre-el-gualcarque/>

JOH once again uses an international arena, now the UN General Assembly, to present himself as a victim of false accusations by drug traffickers.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1494659-466/joh-defensa-discurso-onu-narcotrafico-honduras>

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-netflix-esta-estudiando-grabaciones-secretas-de-la-dea-sobre-testimonios-de-narcotraficantes/>

La Prensa has a host of articles attacking the peasant movement alleging that land recuperation efforts cost the country \$3 billion.

Of course, they also cite Dinant.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/1494751-410/invasiones-7-departamentos-perdidas-honduras->

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/1493883-410/vuelven-invasiones-colon-golpean-econom%C3%ADa-hondure%C3%B1a>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/1494448-410/honduras-estado-pago-500-millones-lempiras-viejo-conflicto-colon>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/1494158-410/falta-pol%C3%ADtica-agraria-propicia-invasiones-colon-honduras>

So far, there have been 361'527 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9627 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/registran-929-contagios-y-66-muertes-por-covid-19-en-honduras/>

According to the Secretary of Health, they have applied 5 million vaccine doses and almost 2 million Hondurans have been fully vaccinated.

<https://confidencialhn.com/datos-de-la-sesal-arrojan-que-mas-de-5-millones-de-dosis-contrala-covid-19-se-han-aplicado-en-honduras/>

The National Party goes after the company Grupo MSA hired by the CNE for the Preliminary Results Transmission (TREP).

The CNE is looking into it. They also clarified that the contract has not been signed yet and that they have until September 25 to do so.

At the same time, Libre magistrate at the CNE, Rixi Moncada, denounces this as an ongoing boycott by the National Party of the elections.

El Heraldo published an article on the importance of the Voting Boards (Juntas Receptoras de Votos). "For many people, talking about the Voting Boards, what we used to know as MER, seems like a boring topic, but it turns out that this is where the election results are cooked. There they open and close the ballot boxes, help the voters during the process, count the votes and also transcribe the results in the Closing Act."

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/22/nacionalistas-dicen-que-cne-contrato-empresa-que-ofrecera-el-trep-que-tiene-irregularidades/>

<https://proceso.hn/ante-denuncia-el-comite-tecnico-y-legal-del-cne-verifica-documentacion-de-empresa-a-la-que-se-adjudico-el-trep/>

<https://criterio.hn/partido-nacional-continua-boicoteando-elecciones-generales-rix-moncada/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2021/1494385-508/mesas-electorales-juntas-receptoras-elecciones>

The presidential candidates seem not to want to debate each other.

<https://proceso.hn/debate-presidencial-tribuna-desierta-en-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/se-encamina-honduras-a-repetir-los-tropezos-de-2017/>

23/09/21

Honduras Daily: OFRANEH; Drug Trafficking - JOH; COVID-19 - Health Sector; Elections - ID; ENEE; and No More Femicides

OFRANEH mourns the death of Aurelia Martina Arzú, "[c]ompañera who was at the forefront of the struggles of the Garífuna people and in defense of ancestral territories and life."

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1441187684018384896>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1441064891113148416>

JOH's speech at the UN was widely criticized in Honduras (see yesterday).

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/cuestionan-defensa-de-joh-en-la-onu-ante-senalamientos-de-narcotraficantes/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/23/critican-defensa-de-joh-en-la-onu-por-senalamientos-de-narcos/>

So far, there have been 362'281 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9661 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-llega-a-362-mil-281-casos-positivos-y-9-mil-661-decesos-por-covid-19/>

"Authorities of the Medical Association of Honduras issued an alert on Thursday about the shortage of oxygen for clinical use in the northern part of the country."

<https://confidencialhn.com/medicos-alertan-sobre-escasez-de-oxigeno-en-zona-norte-de-honduras/>

"With more than 60 days to go before the General Elections, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Honduras, Alice Shackelford, expresses her concern about the delay in the administrative processes, such as the consolidation of the system for the Transmission of Preliminary Electoral Results, TREP." (see also yesterday)

Additionally, Criterio highlights further problems with companies hired by the CNE. "In the midst of this debate, Criterio.hn's investigative team verified the origin and background of the two contracted companies, Technology Group ITG and Comunicaciones Globales/ Datasys Group. In the case of Technology Group ITG, it was found that it is made up of another company that has a history of corruption in relation to a contract with the Honduran Institute of Social Security (IHSS) made in September 2011."

Two more bodies will observe the Honduran elections. The EU as well as the Council of Electoral Experts of Latin America (CEELA).

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/preocupada-naciones-unidas-por-retrasos-en-procesos-administrativos-electorales/>

<https://criterio.hn/empresa-hondurena-que-dara-los-resultados-electorales-vinculada-al-saqueo-del-seguro-social/>

<https://criterio.hn/union-europea-anuncia-envio-de-observadores-para-elecciones-generales-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/cne-y-ceela-firman-acuerdo-de-observacion-electoral-para-la-transparencia-de-las-elecciones-generales-2021/>

1.2 million new identity cards have not yet been distributed.

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-4-millones-de-nuevas-identidades-ya-han-sido-entregadas-segun-rnp/>

The fate of the National Electric Energy Company (ENEE) is still uncertain, but many sectors oppose JOH's plan to split it up.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/portada/dividir-no-garantiza-rescate-financiero-de-la-enee/>

UN Women Coordinator Margarita Bueso said that the Honduran society cannot tolerate any more femicide.

<https://tiempo.hn/honduras-no-puede-tolerar-mas-feminicidios-onu-mujeres/>

24/09/21

Honduras Daily: ZEDEs; OFRANEH - UN; COPINH - Gualcarque; Elections - ID, Women; COVID-19 - Vaccines, Corruption, Poverty; Corruption - IHSS; Military Police; US; Spain;

Another community, San Francisco de Opalaca in Intibucá declared itself free of ZEDEs.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1441453265762258944>

UN Resident Coordinator Alice H. Shackelford met with representatives of OFRANEH to discuss both the implementation of a IACtHR resolution and the forced disappearance of young Garífuna men last year. She also expressed her condolences about the death of Aurelia Martina Arzú (see yesterday).

<https://twitter.com/aliceshackel/status/1441418199073845253>

The preliminary hearing of the Gualcarque Fraud case will be reconvened on September 30, now with COPINH recognized as victims of the case.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1441530357195624449>

CESPAD sent out an alert regarding the "political interference" with the Transmission of Preliminary Results (TREP) (see previous days).

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/24/alerta-electoral-interferencia-de-partidos-politicos-pone-en-riesgo-el-trep-en-elecciones-generales-2021/>

UNDP representative Richard Barathe speaks out in favor of allowing only the new ID for the general elections. There is widespread fear that allowing both would create additional opportunities for fraud. The problem, still over 1 million Hondurans don't have the new ID.

<https://confidencialhn.com/se-debe-votar-unicamente-con-la-nueva-tarjeta-de-identidad-pnud/>

"An analysis of women's political participation in elections, carried out by UN Women in Honduras, indicates that the presence of women on electoral lists is only 37 percent."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/naciones-unidas-senala-que-participacion-de-las-mujeres-en-proceso-electoral-es-apenas-del-37/>

So far, there have been 363'017 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9679 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-alcanza-363-mil-017-casos-positivos-y-9-mil-679-defunciones-por-covid-19/>

According to the deputy minister of health, Roberto Sosenza, 96% of those hospitalized with COVID-19 in Honduras have not been vaccinated.

In October, the vaccination of 12-14 year-old should start.

<https://tiempo.hn/hospitalizados-por-covid-no-se-han-vacunado/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1494996-466/vacunacion-menores-honduras-covid-octubre-ninos-mayores-12-anos>

Two thirds of all the vaccine doses applied in Honduras were donated and many ask where the money went the JOH regime supposedly spent of the vaccine purchase.

The question is even more pertinent as the JOH regime had the Nationalist-controlled Congress approve a secrecy law regarding the purchase (see some weeks ago). Now, Pfizer felt the need to clarify that they had not asked for that - something that the JOH regime had claimed.

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/24/un-66-por-ciento-de-vacunas-adquiridas-por-honduras-fueron-regaladas-por-paises-amigos/>

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/24/analisis-compra-de-vacunas-contr-el-covid-19-la-amenaza-de-nuevos-casos-de-corrupcion-para-financiar-el-clientelismo-politico/>

<https://criterio.hn/pfizer-aclara-que-no-pidio-la-reserva-total-sobre-vacunas-a-gobierno-de-honduras/>

According to the FAO, all departments of Honduras are to be considered in "food crisis" mode.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/honduras/honduras-humanitarian-response-plan-2021-2022>

Trial will be opened against 15 accused in one of the IHSS corruption cases, 7 among them even have to await trial in prison.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-para-15-implicados-en-desfalco-de-158-millones-de-lempiras-del-ihss-siete-guardaran-prision-preventiva/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/dictan-auto-de-formal-procesamiento-a-los-15-imputados-del-caso-14-contratos-del-ihss/>

"Suddenly, before the sun rises, military and judicial operations have begun to besiege neighborhoods and businesses in the country. This morning, the northeast of the Honduran capital, Tegucigalpa, received the dawn at gunpoint and military boot, for two hours inhabitants of "El Rincón" and surrounding areas, were trapped by order of the Military Police who did not allow the exit of workers, the guarantee of free movement dictated by Article 84 of the Constitution was denied; there was no "permission" even for front line medical personnel and journalists."

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3220-honduras-militarismo-extrano-amanece-sitiado-el-rincon-de-tegucigalpa>

<https://confidencialhn.com/policia-militar-ejecuta-allanamientos-en-varios-sectores-de-la-capital/>

"Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken and USAID Administrator Samantha Power met yesterday with Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard, Foreign Ministers Eamon Courtenay of Belize, Rodolfo Solano of Costa Rica, Pedro Brolo of Guatemala, Erika Mouynes of Panama, Vice Foreign Minister Jose Isaias Barahona of Honduras, and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Egriselda Lopez of El Salvador on the margins of this week's United Nations General Assembly meetings in New York City. Secretary Blinken and his counterparts discussed shared priorities in the region, including collaboratively addressing the challenges of irregular migration, confronting corruption, and building our economies back stronger in the wake of COVID-19."

<https://www.state.gov/secretary-blinkens-meeting-with-mexican-foreign-secretary-and-central-american-foreign-ministers/>

<https://proceso.hn/eeuu-pide-a-centroamerica-combatir-corrupcion-y-reforzar-las-instituciones/>

"The Minister of Labor, Olvin Villalobos, together with the Spanish Ambassador to Honduras, Guillermo Kirpatrick de la Vega, announced the launching of a web portal for the registration of candidates for temporary jobs in Spain."

<https://confidencialhn.com/espana-otorga-visas-de-trabajo-temporal-a-hondurenos-lanzan-portal-web-para-inscripcion/>

25/09/21

Honduras Daily: ZEDEs; Drug Trafficking - US; Prisons; Elections; COVID-19 - Reproductive Rights;

The people of La Ceiba declared their community free of ZEDEs.

CIPRODEH published a report on the ZEDEs.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/instante/ratifican-a-la-ceiba-atlantida-territorio-libre-de-zede/>

<https://proceso.hn/la-ceiba-se-declara-territorio-libre-de-zedes/>

<https://ciprodeh.org.hn/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Investigacion-ZEDEs.pdf>

"According to political analyst Raúl Pineda, the U.S. State Department will not publish "high officials" of Juan Hernández in the "Engel List" in order not to lose one of its last "trenches" in the region, due to the approach of neighboring countries to trade with China. In addition, Pineda said

that officials of Joe Biden and congressmen of the stature of Norma Torres, have been called to silence because they do not have a specific political weight and "they are characters that grab short-term issues and when the results are not immediate, they abandon them".

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3223-honduras-engel-da-respaldo-silencioso-a-joh-raul-pineda>

La Prensa reports on a confrontation in the so-called maximum security prison El Pozo which led to the death of three inmates and an injured member of the Military Police.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/1495293-410/enfrentamiento-carcel-el-pozo-honduras-sucesos-muerto-heridos-policia>

Two months before the election and the Electoral Procedural Law, the basis for the work of the Electoral Justice Tribunal (TJE), has still not been approved. Its magistrate Mirian Barahona now calls for the approval of a transitory decree.

CIPRODEH published a report on the elections in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://proceso.hn/si-no-se-emite-ley-procesal-electoral-debe-apelarse-a-decreto-transitorio-senala-magistrada-del-tje/>

<https://ciprodeh.org.hn/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/INVESTIGACION-ELECCIONES.pdf>

ContraCorriente reports on abortion as an electoral topic. "Although the Libertad y Refundación Party (Libre) and the National Opposition Unity of Honduras (Unoh) presented their government proposals, the proposal to decriminalize abortion is the one that has monopolized the national agenda."

CIPRODEH also published a report on reproductive rights violations during the pandemic.

<https://contracorriente.red/2021/09/25/ataques-por-inclusion-del-aborto-y-socialismo-en-propuesta-de-gobierno-opacan-campana-de-libre/>

<https://ciprodeh.org.hn/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Investigacion-DSDR.pdf>

Honduras Daily: ZEDEs; Prisons; and Seized Goods

The deputy president of the Municipal Association of Honduras (Amhon) called on all mayors to unite against the ZEDEs. According to him, 126 mayors have already joined the struggle.

<https://tiempo.hn/castro-no-pueden-ser-perseguidos-por-oponerse-a-zede/>

OACNUDH is following up on the newest confrontation at a Honduran prison, which left three inmates dead (see yesterday). "During 2021, the Office has recorded at least 8 incidents of violence inside prisons. #OACNUDH urges authorities to thoroughly investigate deaths in custody and the entry and use of firearms in prisons."

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1442212741586903047>

"Around 672 million lempiras in cash (adding international currency), 3,667 personal property and 2,334 real estate assets, as well as cattle and other belongings of individuals facing legal proceedings in Honduras are under the management of the Office for the Administration of Seized Assets (OABI)."

<https://proceso.hn/oabi-administra-l-700-millones-y-mas-de-2-mil-bienes-inmuebles/>

27/09/21

Honduras Daily: Campesinas; MADJ - EU; ZEDEs; Elections - TJE, TREP; Migration; EU; COVID-19; Coffee; Palmerola; and an Abandoned Prison

"Rural women have been forgotten by candidates and state institutions, further deepening the unemployment and inequality gap, more than 3.3 million women are engaged in unpaid work in agricultural or household activities, according to a study by Oxfam Honduras, Via Campesina and the Council for the Integral Development of Rural Women."

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3227-mas-de-tres-millones-de-hondurenas-condenadas-al-trabajo-sin-salario>

<https://honduras.oxfam.org/mujeres-rurales-frente-al-COVID-eta-iota>

An EU delegation visited a protest camp in defense of the Jilamito River. The local communities are part of MADJ.

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1442581528698097672>

"The Employment and Economic Development Zones (ZEDE) are illegal and a lie, used to divert attention from the real important issues, said the president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Cortes (CCIC), Eduardo Facussé."

<https://confidencialhn.com/ccic-senala-que-las-zedes-son-ilegales-y-una-mentira-para-desviar-los-temas-importantes-de-pais/>

Lawyer Héctor Aguilar filed a writ of amparo in the Constitutional Chamber demanding that Hondurans abroad can vote in the general elections.

Another legal challenge wants to allow the possibility to vote with both the old and new ID card as many Honduras won't have the new ID by the end of November. At the same time, there is the fear that this opens the door for more fraud.

<https://proceso.hn/presentan-amparo-en-sala-de-lo-constitucional-para-que-hondurenos-en-el-exterior-puedan-votar/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/presentaran-recurso-de-inconstitucionalidad-para-ejercer-el-sufragio-con-las-dos-identidades/>

According to congressman Jorge Cálix, there is not enough time anymore to approve the Electoral Process Law needed for work of the Electoral Justice Tribunal (TJE). There is still the possibility that a transitory decree will be approved to allow the TJE to operate.

<https://proceso.hn/no-se-aprobara-la-ley-procesal-electoral-por-falta-de-tiempo-y-acuerdos-jorge-calix/>

The problems with the TREP system continue. "The international guarantee proposal submitted by the company awarding the Preliminary Results Transmission System (TREP) is not viable, as determined by the National Banking and Insurance Commission (CNBS)."

<https://proceso.hn/garantia-propuesta-por-empresa-adjudicadora-del-trep-no-es-aplicable-cnbs/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/garantia-propuesta-por-empresa-adjudicadora-del-trep-no-es-aplicable-cnbs/>

Radio Progreso reports from the border to Guatemala on the fate of Hondurans deported back home. "Radio Progreso and the Jesuit Network with Migrants were at the border in the early morning hours of September 23 and 24 of this year, and were able to confirm that migrants are being returned without the Honduran government authorities keeping a migratory registry, and without providing humanitarian aid because the people come sick and without money to return to their homes."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/nn/las-masivas-deportaciones-que-se-esconden-entre-la-oscuridad/>

The ambassador of the European Union in Honduras, Jaume Segura, was interviewed by Efe.

<https://proceso.hn/crisis-climatica-y-recuperacion-economica-retos-de-honduras-dice-la-ue/>

So far, there have been 364'605 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9705 confirmed deaths.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-suma-mil-588-nuevos-casos-y-26-decesos-por-covid-19/>

Proceso Digital reports on the difficulties faced by coffee growers in Honduras. "Coffee producers in Honduras continue to be burdened by debts, increasing emigration that leaves them without labor, lack of assistance from trade associations and a marketing policy that places them at the bottom of the chain of beneficiaries."

<https://proceso.hn/caficultores-ahogados-en-deudas-baja-produccion-y-emigracion/>

The new international Palmerola airport in Comayagua will open on October 15, but construction won't be finished by that time and the first flights are expected for later this year.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/investigaciones/1495567-529/obras-pendientes-aeropuerto-palmerola-inicio-operaciones-comayagua-honduras>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/investigaciones/1495568-529/carcel-la-acequia-proyecto-abandonado-honduras-santa-barbara-construccion>

28/09/21

Honduras Daily: HRDs; COPINH - Gualcarque; Drug Trafficking; Elections - Corruption, TREP, Electricity, Minorities, 2017; Corruption - de Lobo; COVID-19 - Poverty, Children, Japan; Transport Sector;

The trial against the criminalized indigenous and campesino defenders Víctor Vásquez and José Santos Vijil started yesterday, but was suspended again to be reconvened on October 13.

Defensores en Línea spoke with the daughter of José.

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1443062782845358080>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/se-inicio-juicio-oral-y-publico-contra-dos-lideres-campesino-e-indigena/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/hija-de-jose-santos-vijil-no-entiendo-porque-mi-padre-esta-preso-pero-lo-que-si-se-es-que-es-inocente/>

Tomorrow, the Gualcarque Fraud case will re-start with the preliminary hearing.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1442995936108683268>

On first sight, it seems good news that the MP presented charges against the Nationalist congressman and vice-president of Congress Reynaldo Ekónomo for his alleged role in the IHSS corruption case.

But these accusations could spare him an extradition to the US where he has been mentioned in various drug trafficking cases.

This suspicion is further strengthened as the judge nominated for his case belongs to the Nationalist party.

Ekónomo is also running for reelection and as long as the trial is not over, the CNE cannot stop him from running again.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/presentan-requerimiento-fiscal-contra-vicepresidente-del-congreso-nacional/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/28/presentan-requerimiento-contra-diputado-reynaldo-ekonomo-por-corrupcion-en-el-ihss/>

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2021/09/28/reynaldo-ekonomo-actual-diputado-por-el-partido-nacional-brindo-apoyo-al-cartel-de-los-cachiros-en-sus-actividades-de-narcotrafico/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/magistrado-de-afiliacion-nacionalista-fue-nombrado-para-el-caso-del-diputado-reynaldo-ekonomo/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1495982-466/reynaldo-ekonomo-elecciones-generales-honduras-ihss>

CESPAD published a disturbing list of members of Congress running for reelection who all have been linked to corruption cases or are or have been on trial accused of corruption.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/28/senalamientos-de-corrupcion-y-enjuiciamientos-definen-a-diputados-que-buscan-reeleccion-en-honduras/>

After a lot of uncertainty, the CNE approved the contracting of the company Grupo Magic Software Argentina (MSA) to provide the system for the Transmission of Preliminary Electoral Results (TREP). The vote was 2:1 with the Nationalist president of the CNE, Kelvin Aguirre, voting against it.

<https://confidencialhn.com/cne-aprueba-contrato-con-la-empresa-msa-para-que-provea-del-sistema-trep/>

<https://proceso.hn/cne-aprueba-contrato-de-empresa-a-la-que-se-adjudico-el-trep/>

The general elections are coming closer as seen by the decision of Congress to freeze electricity prices until the end of the year.

<https://proceso.hn/cn-congela-tarifas-de-electricidad-hasta-final-de-ano/>

"The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD), with the support of the European Union in Honduras, launched this Tuesday the Platform "Honduras Convenes Us", which is a proposal for the promotion of leadership and the vote in favor of candidates for elected office who represent groups historically excluded from Honduran politics."

<https://confidencialhn.com/instituto-holandes-y-la-union-europea-lanzan-plataforma-para-conocer-a-candidatos-de-grupos-subrepresentados/>

The MP inspected buildings of the Mapa Soluciones company in a possible fraud case going back to the 2017 elections and involving the Nationalist former magistrate of the now defunct Supreme Electoral Court (TSE), David Matamoros Batson.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/fetccop-y-atic-inspeccionan-escaneres-utilizados-en-elecciones-de-2017-por-investigacion-a-contrato-entre-tse-y-empresa-mapa-soluciones/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/el-ministerio-publico-abre-investigacion-a-empresa-proveedora-de-escaneres-misma-que-involucra-a-exmagistrados-del-tse/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1496028-466/mapa-soluciones-fraude-escaneres-honduras>

The former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo had already been found guilty of corruption (in a 17-months long trial), but then a court decided that the trial had to be repeated. This trial was supposed to start on July 20, but de Lobo presented a medical examination claiming that she was unfit for trial. Now, the MP has its own examination stating that she is fit for trial.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/1495927-466/rosa-elena-bonilla-apta-para-retomar-juicio-dictamen-forense-corrupcion-caja-chica-dama>

<https://tiempo.hn/exprimera-dama-lista-para-juicio/>

So far, there have been 365'259 COVID-19 cases detected in Honduras and there are 9755 confirmed deaths.

The Funeral Home Association, meanwhile, has documented 22'663 deaths to COVID-19.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-reporta-842-hospitalizados-por-covid-19-y-otros-50-decesos/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/28/funerarias-reportan-mas-de-22-mil-muertes-por-coronavirus-y-sinager-nueve-mil-700/>

Remittances sent to Honduras have increased by 34.4% in the first 8 months of this year compared to the previous year.

<https://proceso.hn/las-remesas-enviadas-a-honduras-crecieron-34-4-en-los-primeros-ocho-meses/>

Human Rights organizations held a press conference in front of the Supreme Court yesterday to demand the swift resolution to a legal action presented 17 months ago demanding the protection of children living on the street.

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1442875698826276878>

Japan approved a \$100 million credit to the JOH regime "to help stabilize, recover and strengthen the economy in the face of the crisis generated by COVID-19 and the impacts caused by storms Eta and Iota".

<https://proceso.hn/japon-aprueba-prestamo-por-100-millones-para-apoyar-economia-de-honduras/>

Congress approved the creation of the Guarantee Fund of the Solidarity Relief Plan for Public Land Transportation in Honduras. This in response to the dire situation of the transport sector and threats of strike measures.

<https://confidencialhn.com/cn-aprueba-creacion-del-fondo-de-garantias-para-el-sector-transporte/>

29/09/21

Honduras Daily: LGBTQ+; COPINH - Gualcarque; Guapinol; ZEDEs; US; Organized Crime; Spain; Workers' Rights; COVID-19; Airports; Economy - PPP, FDI; Military Police; National Police;

Trans woman and human rights defender Tatiana García was found murdered in her house in Santa Rosa de Copán on September 26. OACNUDH condemns the murder.

<https://oacnudh.hn/oacnudh-condena-el-asesinato-de-la-mujer-trans-y-defensora-de-derechos-humanos-tatiana-garcia/>

<https://twitter.com/aliceshackel/status/1443272453556510723>

<http://www.rel-uita.org/honduras/nuevo-ataque-comunidad-lgbti/>

The re-start of the Gualcarque Fraud case has been rescheduled to November 2.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1443366261673668610>

The Municipal Committee for the Defense of the Common and Public Goods of Tocoa denounces the lack of investigation of the judge Carlos Irías de León accused of abuse of authority and the violation of the duties of officials. He is responsible for the arbitrary detention of defender Jeremías Martínez Díaz.

<https://www.guapinolresiste.org/post/guapinol-denuncia-por-falta-de-investigaci%C3%B3n-del-juez-tras-orden-a-prisi%C3%B3n-arbitraria>

<https://criterio.hn/justicia-hondurena-sigue-enjuiciando-inocentes/>

Another constitutional challenge has been presented against the ZEDEs, this time by the National Coalition of Environmental Networks and Organizations (CONROA).

<https://confidencialhn.com/conroa-interpone-recurso-contras-las-zede-ante-csj-por-motivos-ambientales/>

<https://criterio.hn/presentan-recurso-de-inconstitucionalidad-contras-ley-de-las-zede-y-de-mineria/>

US Senator Patrick Leahy commented on recent events in Honduras, e.g. on the trial of Edwin and Raúl (see recent e-mails), as well as the situation of the Guapinol defenders and the lack of sentencing of David Castillo.

<https://www.leahy.senate.gov/press/statement-on-recent-verdicts-in-honduras>

Honduras is among the ten worst offenders when it comes to organized crime out of 193 countries in the Global Organized Crime Index (partially funded by the US State Department).

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3233-honduras-en-top-10-del-indice-global-del-crimen-organizado>

<https://ocindex.net/country/honduras>

The Spanish ambassador and the Spanish office for international cooperation AECID inaugurated together with the MP the new offices of the Special Prosecutor's Office for Ethnic Groups and Cultural Heritage.

https://twitter.com/AECID_Honduras/status/1442949312111988736

"The Honduran Women's Collective (CODEMUH) denounced the violation of the human rights of women workers who work at the maquila Pride Manufacturing S. De R. L., which refuses to reinstate Olivia Aurora Reyes Castillo, even though it has already received two convictions in favor of her reinstatement."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-maquiladora-por-violentar-ddhh-de-mujeres-en-honduras/>

Former president Pepe Lobo has been hospitalized for COVID-19.

<https://proceso.hn/hospitalizan-a-expresidente-lobo-afectado-por-la-covid-19/>

El Herald reports on the effects of the Palmerola airport on its surrounding communities, e.g. that the road infrastructure in Comayagua is already at its limits.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/elheraldodata/1496063-528/inversionistas-esperan-apertura-aeropuerto-palmerola>

Even Proceso Digital concludes that Public Private Partnerships have been a raw deal for Honduras.

<https://proceso.hn/las-app-una-historia-de-millonarias-demandas-y-pocos-reditos/>

Honduras received \$477.9 million in foreign direct investment in the first semester of 2021.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-atrae-4779-millones-de-inversion-extranjera-en-el-primer-semester/>

Defensores en Línea spoke with family members of David Octavio Quiroz, who was killed by the Military Police during the post-electoral repression of 2017. "David Octavio Quiroz's wife regretted that there is not enough punishment for the crime committed against her husband, "so in my name and in the name of my four children who were left without their father, I demand and cry out for justice, that this officer and all those who participated in the attack be punished".

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/familia-de-david-octavio-exige-sentencia-condenatoria-para-miembro-de-la-pmop-que-lo-asesino/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/castigo-para-los-asesinos-de-octavio-quiroz/>

"The director of the organization Young Promoters and Defenders of HUMAN Rights (Joprodeh), Jorge Jiménez, has reported that in the last few days around 120 police officers have resigned due to constant violations of their indispensable rights and, consequently, are organizing a migrant caravan to the United States."

<http://www.web.elibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3235-honduras-120-oficiales-buscarian-exilio-por-trato-inhumano-de-la-policia>

30/09/21

Honduras Daily: Moskitia; LGBTQ+ - EU; Bajo Aguán - UN; OFRANEH - IACtHR; Elections - Opposition, 2017; UN; COVID-19 - Health Sector, Mobile Hospitals, Corruption; Prisons; Corruption;

Inhabitants of La Moskitia held a protest before the MP and denounced the attack by the Armed Forces on their community two weeks ago (see previous e-mails).

They also met with OACNUDH.

<https://confidencialhn.com/misquitos-denuncian-ante-el-mp-ataque-armado-por-parte-de-miembros-de-las-ffaa/>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3261-victimas-de-ataque-de-las-fuerzas-armadas-llegan-ante-la-oacnudh-en-la-capital>

The Spanish embassy together with the EU, Germany and France condemned the murder of trans woman and defender Tatiana García (see yesterday).

<https://twitter.com/EmbEspHonduras/status/1443243357350899722>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3262-honduras-preocupacion-por-la-falta-de-proteccion-ante-el-aumento-de-violencia-en-contra-de-personas-defensoras-de-los-derechos-lgbti>

OACNUDH met with campesino organizations from the Bajo Aguán.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1443693331473653764>

OFRANEH has three new cases at the Inter-American System on their way to the court: one by the Travesía community, one by the Cayos Cochinos community and one of free, prior and informed consent regarding the ZEDEs, the Fishing Act, and other laws.

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1443706937770663936>

The CNE extended the date for the exhibition of the definitive national electoral census until October 6.

<https://confidencialhn.com/cne-amplia-fecha-publicacion-del-censo-nacional-electoral-hasta-el-6-de-octubre/>

There may be another chance for an opposition alliance for the general elections.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/eleccioneshonduras2021/1496308-508/luis-zelaya-convocatoria-alianza-xiomara-castro-salvador-nasralla-elecciones>

The inspection of the buildings belonging to the company Mapa Soluciones continues for the third day (see two days ago).

While this sounds hopeful, the reason for this new investigation, four years after the fact, could be more sinister. "The investigation for fraud, carried out by the MP, could be a way to carry out a "judicial cleansing" in favor of the former electoral magistrates: David Matamoros Batson (photo), known for the "rural votes", Erick Rodríguez and José Escobar, according to the opinion of the criminal lawyer, Omar Menjivar, who assures that a replica of the impunity of the "Pandora Case" is approaching."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/por-tercer-dia-consecutivo-mp-inspecciona-bodegas-de-mapa-soluciones-por-supuesta-sobrevaloracion-de-escaneres-utilizados-en-elecciones-de-2017/>

<https://proceso.hn/por-tercer-dia-consecutivo-mp-inspecciona-bodegas-de-mapa-soluciones-en-caso-de-sobrevaloracion-en-elecciones-de-2017/>

<http://www.web.ellibertador.hn/index.php/noticias/nacionales/3236-honduras-accion-legal-contratacion-y-mapa-soluciones-busca-inmunidad-penalista>

The UN supports Honduras with \$10 million to restore 295,000 hectares of protected areas.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-restaurara-295000-hectareas-de-areas-protegidas-con-apoyo-de-la-onu/>

"Josué Orellana, president of the National Association of Nurses and Auxiliary Nurses of Honduras (ANEAAH), denounced Thursday that the Civil Service has a plan aimed at damaging the hiring process [for nurses] and complained that the country's bureaucracy delays this process."

<https://confidencialhn.com/burocracia-atrasa-contratacion-de-enfermeras-aneeah/>

"Although it is not in service to attend patients affected by the coronavirus, the mobile hospital in Danlí will have to pay around 850,000 lempiras for electricity consumption."

<https://elpulso.hn/2021/09/30/hospital-movil-de-danli-debe-pagar-850-mil-lempiras-por-energia-sin-ser-habilitada/>

"Using special investigation and monitoring techniques, the Public Prosecutor's Office, through the Specialized Prosecution Unit Against Corruption Networks (UFERCO) and the Technical Agency for Criminal Investigation (ATIC), arrested Cristian Alejandro Banegas Rivera, an official of the Ministry of Health, who will be charged with continuous bribery."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/uferco-y-atic-detienen-infraganti-a-funcionario-de-salud-con-soborno-en-mano/>

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1443689552963592193

The National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (MNP-CONAPREV) filed a constitutional challenge against the decision to have the PNFAS as the only prison for women in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/presentan-recurso-de-inconstitucionalidad-por-designar-a-pnfas-como-unica-carcel-de-mujeres-en-honduras/>

CESPAD published an overview of the Corruption on Wheels case.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2021/09/30/corrupcion-sobre-ruedas-el-millonario-robo-de-una-red-de-funcionarios-desde-casa-presidencial/>