

01/03/22

Honduras Daily: Extractivism; Corruption - Secrecy Law, Public Health, de Lobo; Electricity; Education; Lawyers; Police; Prisons; BCIE; Migration; and Selling a Plane

MADJ and the human rights law firm Bufete para la Dignidad welcome the decision of the Xiomara administration to declare Honduras free of open pit mining (see yesterday). But this can only be a first step, justice for victims of extractive projects in Honduras needs to follow.

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1498745575382130695>

<https://criterio.hn/empresas-mineras-deben-pagar-crmenes-cometidos-contra-ambiente-y-defensores-del-territorio-en-honduras/>

As announced, Congress repealed the Secrecy Law.

OACNUDH welcomed this while requesting the approval of a "Archives Law to preserve institutional information as a public good at the service of the public".

<https://criterio.hn/congreso-nacional-de-honduras-deroga-la-ley-de-secretos/>

<https://proceso.hn/derogada-la-ley-de-secretos/>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1498826147815206912>

The CNA presented a report on their findings of corrupt acts at the Health Secretariat during the JOH regime.

They presented an official complaint against the former Minister of Health, Alba Consuelo Flores, for abuse of authority.

<https://www.cna.hn/informe-secretaria-de-salud/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/01/cna-denuncia-a-exsecretaria-de-salud-por-abuso-de-autoridad-y-mal-manejo-de-fondos/>

<https://twitter.com/cnahonduras/status/1498718950787584003>

March 16 will be an interesting day. The retrial against the former first lady, Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo concluded and the verdict is expected on March 16. The same day, the extradition hearing of JOH will take place.

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1498886993119436806

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/01/exprimera-dama-asegura-que-es-inocente-y-espera-un-fallo-absolutorio/>

Starting this month, families consuming less than 150 kW will not have to pay for their electricity.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/este-mes-aplicaran-subsidio-de-energia-a-1340000-familias-hondurenas-XY6155909>

Out of the aprox. 17'000 schools in Honduras, 12'000 need to be completely rebuilt, according to the Minister of Education Daniel Sponda.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/unos-12-mil-centros-escolares-necesitan-ser-reconstruidos/>

A young lawyer, Luis Pereira, was murdered in Juticalpa, Olancho.

<https://proceso.hn/muere-abogado-tras-sufrir-atentado-en-olancho/>

"The President of Honduras, Xiomara Castro, announced the creation of the Community Police while promising to reestablish the actions of the Honduran National Police, which was usurped by hybrid security forces with military elements."

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-anuncia-acciones-para-creacion-de-policia-comunitaria-y-redimir-la-policia-nacional/>

<https://criterio.hn/instan-al-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-desmilitarizar-la-sociedad-y-extinguir-fuerzas-de-seguridad-que-instauo-joh/>

The Ministers of Defense and Security announced the gradual demilitarization of the Honduran penitentiary system.

Xiomara additionally announced a general pardon to reduce prison overcrowding.

<https://proceso.hn/inicia-desmilitarizacion-de-los-centros-penales-secretaria-de-seguridad-asume-administracion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/presidenta-castro-anuncia-un-indulto-para-reducir-hacinamiento-en-carceles/>

According to the president of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), Dante Mossi, they have \$2.4 billion ready to finance projects in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/bcie-tiene-2400-millones-para-programas-y-proyectos-en-honduras/>

The Xiomara administration met with a delegation of the International Organization for Migration.

<https://confidencialhn.com/oim-apoyara-a-honduras-para-impulsar-una-politica-migratoria/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/02/28/gobierno-pone-en-venta-avion-presidencial-como-medida-de-austeridad/>

02/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta; Drug Trafficking - Extradition; Mining - Azacualpa; Corruption - JOH; Penal Code; Armed Forces - Prisons; Public Health;

Her family, COPINH, Honduras and the world commemorated yesterday Berta Cáceres.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1499154504389992456>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1499174574210039811>

<https://copinh.org/2022/03/discurso-de-copinh-6to-aniversario-de-la-siembra/>

<https://proceso.hn/a-seis-anos-del-crimen-contraberta-caceres-familiares-siguen-clamando-justicia-en-honduras/>

The Foreign Ministry informed yesterday that the US requested the extradition of four more Hondurans. Their identity is unknown.

The Supreme Court is convened for this morning at 8:30am to nominate a judge for the cases.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/cancilleria-informa-que-cuatro-hondurenos-fueron-pedidos-extradicion-eeuu-DX6176104>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/pleno-magistrados-designara-jueces-nuevos-pedidos-extradicion-MM6178196>

Avispa Midia covers the situation in Azacualpa where the Maya Chortí community is trying to defend its land and cemetery from the expansion of a mining project.

<https://avispa.org/en-honduras-cementerio-maya-chorti-es-tragado-por-la-minera-aura-minerals/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/minosa-capitalismo-salvaje-desangra-montanas-y-desaparece-comunidades-en-honduras/>

UFERCO's Luis Javier Santos denounces that the JOH regime destroyed key documents and information, probably expecting that the Secrecy Law would be repealed and further acts of corruption would come to light.

Something similar also happened at the local level as the Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP) informs.

And at Congress.

<https://confidencial.hn.com/toda-la-informacion-de-casa-presidencial-fue-destruida-fiscal-luis-javier-santos/>

<https://proceso.hn/fiscal-de-la-uferco-denuncia-destruccion-de-importante-informacion-de-casa-presidencial/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/02/el-iaip-denuncia-sustraccion-de->

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/02/redondo-denuncia-extraccion-de-documentos-del-congreso-nacional/documentos-en-alcaldias-hondurenas/>

After repealing the Secrecy Law, Congress now aims at the problematic new Penal Code which includes a lot of problematic articles shielding powerful groups from corruption investigations.

<https://proceso.hn/prepararse-para-volver-al-anterior-codigo-penal-pide-luis-redondo/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ahora-vamos-por-el-codigo-penal-diputado-ramon-barrios-luego-de-la-derogacion-de-ley-de-secretos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/congreso-nacional-da-un-plazo-de-24-horas-para-que-csj-remita-opinion-sobre-articulos-del-codigo-penal-que-podrian-ser-derogados/>

"Representatives of the Honduran agricultural sector are demanding that the government of Xiomara Castro repeal the Executive Decree, approved by the administration of former President Juan Orlando Hernández, which, for a period of five years, granted the Armed Forces powers over the control of the agricultural sector and the administration of multi-million dollar resources."

<https://criterio.hn/instan-al-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-quitar-fondos-a-militares-para-tareas-del-agro/>

The announced demilitarization of the penitentiary system will start with the maximum-security prisons.

<https://proceso.hn/desmilitarizacion-de-centros-penales-inicia-con-carceles-de-maxima-seguridad/>

Japan donated \$2 million to the Xiomara administration to build up a cold chain for COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://confidencialhn.com/japon-dona-dos-millones-de-dolares-a-honduras-para-desarrollar-cadena-de-frio-en-la-secretaria-de-salud/>

03/03/22

Honduras Daily: Assassinations; Bajo Aguán; Corruption - Congress, JOH, Mobile Hospitals, IHTT; Amnesty; Drug Trafficking - Extradition; Armed Forces; Prisons; and Berta's Legacy

Father José Enrique Vásquez was found murdered after being reported missing in Santa Cruz de Yojoa in the north of Honduras.

<https://www.defensoresonlinea.com/confirman-asesinato-de-sacerdote-desaparecido-en-cortes/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/con-impactos-de-bala-encuentran-cuerpo-del-parroco-jose-enrique-vasquez-en-la-morgue-de-sps/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/es-doloroso-que-un-sacerdote-muera-asesinado-monsenor-angel-garachana/>

"With the inauguration of President Xiomara Castro, hopes for the reduction of socio-environmental and agrarian conflicts in Honduras resurfaced. In fact, at the national level, various organizations have repeatedly called for the need to intervene in historic conflicts such as the one in the Bajo Aguán Valley, department of Colón, which has resulted in hundreds of peasants killed, families confronted and communities impoverished. It is public knowledge that in the last two weeks, the government's council of ministers, composed of the Minister of Security, Ramón Sabillón, the Minister and Vice-Minister of the National Agrarian Institute (INA), Francisco Fúnez and Rafael Alegría, respectively, as well as the head of the Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion (SEDIS), José Carlos Cardona, have visited the area to seek a solution to the conflict in the Aguán Valley. Hence the importance of this analysis which, in the first part, briefly presents historical aspects to understand the conflict in the Aguán Valley; the second section outlines the moments of the worsening of the crisis in the last 2 years, which coincide with the end of the regime of Juan Orlando Hernández. The third section highlights some aspects that can contribute to the democratic management of the agrarian conflict and, finally, identifies a series of strategic challenges for the peasant movement in the current political context, in the effort to move towards a democratic solution to the conflict."

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/03/03/coyuntura-desde-los-territorios-reflexiones-sobre-como-gestionar-el-conflicto-agrario-en-el-bajo-aguan/>

Libre congressman Jari Dixon presented an initiative to reform the Organic Law of the National Congress, with the objective of eliminating the immunity of Honduran members of Congress.

<https://confidencialhn.com/jari-dixon-herrera-presenta-iniciativa-para-reformar-la-ley-organica-del-congreso-nacional-a-fin-de-eliminar-la-inmunidad-de-los-diputados/>

UFERCO's Luis Santos informed that they are investigating the golden parachutes given to former high ranking officials of the JOH regime.

<https://confidencialhn.com/uferco-investiga-fieta-de-bonificaciones-que-cobran-exfuncionarios-de-joh/>

CESPAD published an overview of the mobile hospital corruption case for which the intellectual authorship remains unpunished. Their report focuses on the role of JOH.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/03/03/las-mentiras-de-joh/>

"Gerardo Aguilar, labor leader in the transportation sector, denounced in Cuarto Poder that the outgoing authorities of the Honduran Institute of Land Transportation (IHTT) stole 13 million lempiras for the payment of their benefits."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/03/comisionados-salientes-suajeron-13-millones-del-ihtt-asegura-transportista/>

After seven years in prison for corruption, the former Hondutel director Marcelo Chimirri was discharged by a judge.

The ruling was based on the Amnesty Law which caused an outcry.

"In view of this, Ligia Ramos, deputy of the Salvador Party of Honduras (PSH), issued her opinion through a publication on her official Twitter account. "Chimirri has judicial processes before the coup d'état! He is not a political prisoner!" she said. "What a thing, they deny Cofadeh amnesty for real political prisoners and on the other hand they release criminals.", she added."

PSH announced a reform to the bill to avoid such cases.

<https://confidencialhn.com/tras-permanecer-7-anos-en-prision-queda-en-libertad-exgerente-de-hondutel-marcelo-chimirri/>

<https://criterio.hn/pacto-de-impunidad-disfrazado-de-amnistia-otorga-libertad-a-marcelo-chimirri>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/ligia-ramos-postura-marcelo-chimirri-favorecido-ley-amnistia-NI6219438>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/03/bancada-del-psh-presentara-iniciativa-para-reformar-ley-de-amnistia/>

<https://www.radiohrn.hn/honduras-amnistia-politica-congreso-nacional-carlos-umana>

The Supreme Court nominated a judge for the four newest extradition requests (see yesterday).

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/jueza-reina-hercules-conocera-peticiones-extradicion-cuatro-hondurenos-CY6212325>

According to sociologist and criminologist Leticia Salomón, there is an urgent need for a deep reform of the Armed Forces in Honduras which have been turned under the JOH regime in an armed branch of the presidency. Since 2009, their budget has increased from 2.1 billion to 9.3 billion Lempiras.

<https://criterio.hn/fuerzas-armadas-deben-entrar-en-un-proceso-de-reforma-tras-poderio-que-instauro-joh/>

While welcoming the decision to demilitarize the Honduras prison, the president of the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (MNP-CONAPREV), Glenda Ayala, expressed concern about the decision to designate the Ministry of Security, specifically the National Police, to take over the direction of the National Penitentiary Institute (INP).

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/desmilitarizacion-de-centros-penales-respetando-legalidad-piden-organizaciones/>

<https://copinh.org/2022/03/el-legado-de-berta-la-articulacion-como-estrategia/>

04/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - Extradition; Amnesty; Corruption – SEDIS;

More details regarding the newest extradition request came to light. Apparently, there are not linked to Honduran politicians but rather a drug clan in the north of Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/segun-ha-trascendido-los-4-ciudadanos-pedidos-en-extradicion-pertenecen-a-una-banda-criminal-dedicada-al-narcotrafico-y-no-estarian-ligados-a-politicos-hondurenos/>

A court in San Pedro Sula denied the application of the Amnesty Law in the case of the former mayor of San Pedro Sula, Rodolfo Padilla Sunseri. His crime, embezzlement, goes back before the coup in 2009. He has been on the run since 2017.

Meanwhile, the discussion about when to apply the Amnesty Law continues. Trying to undermine the work of COFADEH in freeing real political prisoners and criminalized human rights defender, journalist Renato de Jesús Álvarez accuses COFADEH of having certified the amnesty request of former Hondutel director Marcelo Chimirri (see yesterday). "The general coordinator of Berta Oliva, at no time has she been interviewed or consulted by TN5 Estelar to address this issue, however, they issued fake news. (...) The renowned human rights defender, Berta Oliva, affirms that Mr. Marcelo Chimirri has not had any communication with COFADEH, nor has he been issued any accreditation or proof."

<https://proceso.hn/deniegan-solicitud-de-amnistia-a-excalcalde-sampedrano-rodolfo-padilla-sunseri/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/cofadeh-emplaza-a-renato-alvarez-a-que-muestre-el-numero-de-acreditacion-que-extendio-a-chimirri/>

The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) published a report on corruption during the previous administration at the Secretariat of Economic Development (SEDIS).

"The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) denounced that the Secretariat of Economic Development disbursed 61 million lempiras for the payment of salaries of three officials during the administration of former President Juan Orlando Hernández. The director of the CNA, Gabriela Castellanos, detailed the expenditure that took place in the State during the government period 2018

- 2022, to pay three permanent representatives to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Switzerland."

<https://www.cna.hn/informe-secretaria-desarrollo/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/04/cna-denuncia-que-una-entidad-erogo-61-millones-en-pagos-a-funcionarios/>

<https://twitter.com/cnahonduras/status/1499807816374235138>

05/03/22

Honduras Daily: HR-Situation; Extractivism; Amnesty;

The Honduras Forum Switzerland published the February 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=46060

MADJ welcomes the newest announcement by the Ministry of Energy, Natural Resources, the Environment and Mining (MiAmbiente) to declare the defense and protection of the environment as a state priority.

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1500177840066764808>

The discussions about the Amnesty Law and to whom it applies continue. Libre congressman Rasel Tome holds the judges responsible for applying it to questionable people. The current judges are still from the JOH-era and the judiciary is in need of a profound restructuring.

Several proposals to reform the Amnesty Law are expected for the coming week.

COFADEH has certified more than 40 amnesties for political prisoners so far. "We have already issued around 40 certifications, the demand is huge and the certification we issue is not for immediate action, because we have to make revisions and no one can put pressure on us."

<https://proceso.hn/rasel-tome-responsabiliza-a-los-jueces-de-aplicar-amnistia-a-quien-ellos-decidan/>

<https://proceso.hn/libre-de-acuerdo-en-revisar-decreto-de-amnistia-para-presos-y-perseguidos-politicos/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/05/cofadeh-indica-que-extendieron-mas-40-amnistias-a-presos-politicos/>
06/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta; Amnesty - Agriculture; Migration - TPS; Forests;

The Xiomara administration commemorated Berta Cáceres with a bust which will be installed at the Plaza de las Etnias of the Government Civic Center.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/homenaje-berta-caceres-gobierno-honduras-GY6256989>

COFADEH denounces a smear campaign against the Amnesty Law which seeks to undermine its purpose of freeing criminalized defenders and political prisoners.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/existe-un-guion-y-una-campana-para-desprestigiar-el-decreto-de-amnistia/>

According to the deputy minister at the National Agrarian Institute (INA), Rafael Alegría, more than 7000 criminalized campesinos could benefit from the Amnesty Law.

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-7-mil-campesinos-seran-beneficiados-con-amnistia-politica-segun-instituto-nacional-agrario/>

Hondurans will march in Washington DC to demand a new Temporary Protection Status.

<https://proceso.hn/hondurenos-marcharan-hoy-por-ampliacion-del-tps/>

"Congressman Samuel Madrid presented before the National Congress a forestry ban bill with the purpose of stopping the deforestation of Honduran forests. The initiative consists of establishing a ban for a period of seven years, which may be renewable, on the cutting, harvesting and commercialization of trees such as pine, mangrove, mahogany, cedar, laurel and kapok throughout the country."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/06/parlamentario-propone-una-veda-forestal-para-evitar-tala-de-los-bosques/>

07/03/22

Honduras Daily: HR-Situation; Journalists; Mining - Azacualpa; Indigenous Peoples; Violence against Women; Education; Migration - US; Transport Sector; OAS; Diplomatic Sector; Elections - Fraud; Corruption - JOH; Armed Forces – US;

The link I sent out for the monthly human rights monitor (see Sunday) does not work anymore after an update of our homepage, here is the right one:

https://honduras-forum.ch/?smd_process_download=1&download_id=46060

At least five shots were fired against the Radio Globo building in Tegucigalpa yesterday. This occurred when the Program "Interpreting the News" was on the air.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/07/alerta-periodistas-siguen-en-riesgo-mortal-balacean-la-globo/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/tirotean-instalaciones-radio-globo-capital-sucesos-AA6288020>

"The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Honduras (OHCHR) expresses concern about the situation of the communities affected by mining in La Unión, Copán, and urges the State to take measures to guarantee their rights to a healthy environment, health and education. The OHCHR Representative in Honduras, Isabel Albaladejo Escribano, and her team carried out a mission to La Unión to follow up on complaints about the environmental and social impact of mining in the area. During the mission, the Office was able to observe that this exploitation has generated conflict and disruption of the social fabric, displacement of communities, criminalization of territorial defenders, limitation of the free transit of communities along the road controlled by the company, and a process of exhumation of corpses in the Azacualpa cemetery in breach of international standards and the resolutions of the Administrative Court of Appeals of San Pedro Sula, the Constitutional Chamber and the Court of Appeals of Santa Rosa de Copán, which since 2018 have ordered a halt to exhumation activities."

<https://oacnudh.hn/oacnudh-expresa-preocupacion-por-la-situacion-de-las-comunidades-afectadas-por-la-mineria-en-la-union-copan-e-insta-al-estado-a-tomar-las-medidas-para-garantizar-sus-derechos-a-un-medio-ambiente-san/>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/contexto/item/3347-oacnudh-constata-grave-situacion-de-derechos-humanos-ocasionada-por-minera-en-la-union-copan>

"Today, Lenca community of Tierras del Padre presented an injunction against eviction orders for their community. Tierras del Padre has suffered various eviction attempts by state security forces including the last one on Feb. 8th".

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1501064896200466433>

"The rampant violence against Honduran women does not find an echo among justice operators. At least that is inferred from the chilling data that report a daily femicide and even a complaint every two hours in the courts of the Republic, but far from deterring this scourge, it has increased over the years."

<https://proceso.hn/vertiginosa-violencia-contra-la-mujer-no-encuentra-eco-en-honduras/>

According to the Education Minister Daniel Sponda, they have inscribed over a million children in the public education system over the last days reaching 1.2 million inscriptions.

<https://confidencialhn.com/a-1-2-millones-asciende-la-matricula-en-el-sistema-educativo-publico-nacional/>

A protest in front of the White House had Hondurans demand an extension of the Temporary Protection Status (TPS).

<https://proceso.hn/manifestantes-hondurenos-piden-extension-del-tps-frente-a-la-casa-blanca/>

The transport sector suffers greatly from violence in Honduras. In the first two months of 2022, 25 workers of the transport sector were murdered.

Leonardo Pineda, a leader in the sector, further denounces that organized crime is buying up companies which previously had to close due to the high extortion rates.

<https://confidencialhn.com/25-muertes-en-los-ultimos-dos-meses-reportan-transportistas/>

<https://proceso.hn/crimen-organizado-esta-adquiriendo-empresas-que-cierran-por-extorsion/>

Writer Roberto Quesada was nominated as the new Honduran representative to the OAS.

<https://proceso.hn/juramentan-a-roberto-quesada-como-representante-de-honduras-ante-la-oea/>

"Despite the fact that the Foreign Affairs Minister, Eduardo Enrique Reina, asked several consuls to resign, they refuse under the decree of appointments of positions left by the outgoing government, said Monday the Vice Minister Tony Garcia, revealing "the disaster" they left in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

<https://confidencialhn.com/todavia-hay-consules-que-no-quieren-renunciar-dice-tony-garcia-al-revelar-el-desastre-que-dejaron-en-la-cancilleria/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/07/vicecanciller-denuncia-que-hallaron-desastres-en-consulados-del-exterior/>

"Prosecutors of the Special Unit against Electoral Crimes obtained in the last hours a conviction after the application of an abbreviated procedure against the citizen Orestes Rocío Casula Vázquez, who by judicial decision must serve a sentence of three years plus 225 days fine, the above, after a prosecutor's request was filed against her for the crime of falsification of electoral documents to the detriment of the Constitution of the Republic. Orestes Rocío Casula Vázquez, served as proprietary secretary of the Voting Reception Board No. 8844 representing the National Party."

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-logra-primer-condena-por-falsificacion-de-documentos-electorales-tras-elecciones-generales-de-noviembre-de-2021/>

"Analysts consider that the National Congress should repeal the regulation that allowed the creation of the National Defense and Security Council, which confers supremacy to the president of Honduras and which responds to a corruption structure orchestrated by former governor Juan Orlando Hernández."

<https://criterio.hn/piden-derogar-ley-de-seguridad-y-defensa-que-otorga-supremacia-al-presidente/>

Political analyst Tomás Andino Mencía presents a proposal to the Xiomara administration to reconsider the US military presence in the country.

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-debe-iniciar-la-salida-de-la-mision-militar-norteamericana-en-honduras/>

08/03/22

Honduras Daily: Women's Rights - Femicide, Keyla, Xiomara; HR; Political Prisoners; Amnesty; Corruption - Hondutel, Housing; Water; Prisons; and A Chance to Right US Wrongs in Honduras

"From very early in the morning, the streets of Tegucigalpa were filled with energetic women, with happy and smiling faces, their spirit of war and struggle matched with the imposing heat of the summer sun, and the shouts of the slogans echoed with the wind and the trova music that resounded in the commemoration of International Women's Day."

<https://criterio.hn/feministas-entregan-ley-contra-la-violencia-y-piden-uso-de-pae-a-xiomara-castro/>

61 women have been murdered in 2022 so far and 95% of femicides remain unpunished. Most victims, one third, are between 10 and 29 years old.

The corresponding prosecution office demands the creation of shelters for victims of domestic violence.

<https://criterio.hn/en-el-dia-internacional-de-la-mujer-honduras-reporta-al-menos-61-muertes-violentas/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/elheraldoplus/data/femicidios-honduras-dia-mujer-EA6310600>

<https://confidencialhn.com/fiscalia-de-la-mujer-exige-casas-refugio-para-victimas-de-violencia-domestica/>

Julissa Villanueva, vice-minister of Security, confirmed that they reopened the femicide case of nursing student Keyla Martínez who had been murdered inside a police station.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/reabren-caso-de-estudiante-de-enfermeria-keyla-martinez-KF6340815>

"The coming to power of President Xiomara Castro changed the political strategy of Honduran women's organizations, who for the first time in their history have taken the risk of supporting a government. For many feminists, the president is one of them. Their expectations are high, will they be matched?"

<https://criterio.hn/xiomara-castro-y-las-expectativas-feministas-en-honduras/>

<https://twitter.com/XiomaraCastroZ/status/1501307374828593155>

OACNUDH presented its yearly report on the human rights situation in Honduras.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/honduras/informe-del-alto-comisionado-de-las-naciones-unidas-para-los-derechos-humanos-1>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1501253620800663554>

https://twitter.com/UN_HRC/status/1501251780973264902

Raul Alvarez, who spent 1.5 year locked up as a political prisoner, faced trial again yesterday from charges going back to the 2017 post-electoral crisis.

During the trial, the company representing Burger King desisted charges against him and now it is likely that all charges be dropped at the next hearing scheduled for May 13th.

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1500997468976205833>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1501402892670214149>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/burger-king-desiste-de-accion-penal-contr-el-preso-politico-raul-alvarez/>

Judge Karla Romero who had sworn in Xiomara Castro presented a constitutional challenge against the Amnesty Law. She clarified not to be against an amnesty law, but it should be done correctly. She further said that no further request for amnesty could be treated as long as the challenge has not been resolved.

<https://proceso.hn/jueza-karla-romero-interpone-recurso-de-inconstitucionalidad-en-contra-de-decreto-de-amnistia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/jueza-karla-romero-interpone-recurso-de-inconstitucionalidad-en-contra-de-amnistia/>

The MP and ATIC are investigating a 230 million Lempiras fraud case at Hondutel.

Hondutel's deficit is 6 billion Lempiras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fiscalia-contra-delitos-tributarios-y-atic-investigan-supuesta-defraudacion-de-230-millones-de-lempiras-en-hondutel/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/deficit-de-hondutel-es-de-6-mil-millones-de-lempiras-asegura-gerente/>

The CNA presented a new report on a corruption case involving container housing set up after hurricanes Eta and Iota.

The case involves JOH-ally Ebal Díaz.

<https://www.cna.hn/las-viviendas-contenedores-el-rotundo-fracaso-del-proyecto-piloto-de-vivienda-de-reasentamiento-en-edificios-multifamiliares/>

<https://twitter.com/cnahonduras/status/1501255138111070209>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/08/cna-denuncia-a-ebal-diaz-por-fracaso-del-proyecto-de-casas-contenedores/>

<https://criterio.hn/ebal-diaz-sindicado-como-el-hombre-de-atras-del-fallido-proyecto-casas-contenedores/>

"The mayor of the Central District, Jorge Aldana, said Tuesday he is aware of the deep water problem in the country, but specifically in the capital, where he said that for 30 years there has been no investment in this area and "that forces us to face a critical situation"."

<https://confidencialhn.com/situacion-de-distribucion-de-agua-potable-en-la-capital-es-critica-senala-alcalde-del-distrito-central-jorge-aldana/>

The Armed Forces will hand over control of Honduras' prisons to the police on March 10.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/08/ffaa-entrega-centros-penales-a-la-policia-nacional-el-10-de-marzo/>

"Xiomara Castro's presidency in Honduras offers the Biden administration the opportunity to work on addressing root causes of migration with a partner that now seems far more reliable than in El Salvador or Guatemala. And it offers the U.S. government a chance to begin to address the harm successive U.S. administrations did to the Honduran people by accepting the 2009 coup and embracing corrupt and abusive presidents in power for the last dozen years. Through its support for these repressive and corrupt leaders, the United States has helped to create and intensify the human rights crisis in Honduras. Now, the Biden Administration, if it chooses to do so, can begin to right this wrong."

<https://www.elfaro.net/en/202203/columns/26057/A-Chance-to-Right-US-Wrongs-in-Honduras.htm>

09/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH, Armed Forces; La Moskitia - SSF; Campesinas; Prisons; and Stand with Her

One of JOH's co-conspirator, the former director of the Honduran Police, Juan Carlos "El Tigre" Bonilla was arrested yesterday. He faces an extradition to the US. He was in hiding for two years after having been "charged in April 2020 by US prosecutors in New York with allegedly abusing his official position to protect multi-ton cocaine shipments on behalf of Hernández, and his brother Tony Hernández".

Honduras Now linked to some helpful background information on him and the charges he faces.

Also relating to JOH's case, Criterio reports on the case of a former commander of the Armed Forces who allegedly trafficked arms to a drug trafficker allied with JOH.

<https://criterio.hn/capturan-al-tigre-bonilla-supuesto-coconspirador-de-joh/>

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/latin-america/honduran-police-chief-bonilla-arrested-drug-trafficking>

<https://www.aquiabajo.com/blog/2020/4/30/us-indictment-of-el-tigre-bonilla-just-the-tip-of-the-impunity-iceberg>

<https://criterio.hn/excomandante-de-la-105-brigada-habria-proveido-armas-a-supuesto-narcosocio-de-joh/>

Seven members of the Armed Forces were detained accused of drug trafficking.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-solicita-mas-de-12-anos-de-carcel-contra-siete-militares-condenados-por-trafico-de-cocaina/>

OACNUDH together with two Honduran human rights organization and an international human rights accompaniment project organize a visit to the Moskitia "to verify the attack on the community suffered in 2021 by state security forces that left people dead and wounded".

<https://twitter.com/bufetedignidad/status/150167170721141146>

CESPAD looks at the situation of women peasant farmers and their hopes for the Xiomara administration.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/03/09/a-que-le-apuestan-las-mujeres-campesinas-en-el-gobierno-de-castro/>

Proceso Digital reports on a riot at the so-called maximum security prison La Tolva which led to the death of at least 5 inmates according to CONADEH.

<https://proceso.hn/reportan-varias-muertes-en-la-carcel-de-la-tolva/>

<https://twitter.com/UNHumanRights/status/1501520674136809475>

10/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH, MP, Extradition; Amnesty; Women's Rights; Agriculture; Electricity - Corruption, US; Prisons; and Ending the Golden Exile

US Senator Patrick Leahy commented on the arrest of the former head of police Juan Carlos Bonilla. "For years I urged successive U.S. administrations to cut ties with "El Tigre," Honduras' feared former National Police Chief. Instead, they treated him like a legitimate partner, even though he was deeply involved in the corruption and brutality of drug trafficking. The Department of Justice, in seeking his arrest and extradition, deserves praise for reaffirming that no one is above the law. It is a message that the Honduran people have long waited to hear."

Bonilla had his first extradition hearing yesterday morning.

The second one will be held on April 8. In the meantime, he will be not in police custody, but in the hands of the Armed Forces which raised some suspicions.

According to COFADEH, the extradition request for Bonilla goes back to April 2021.

InSight Crime reports on Bonilla's arrest and what it could mean for JOH. "Bonilla's arrest significantly raises the stakes for former president Hernández, who stands to lose the most if his former ally is extradited and decides to cooperate with US authorities."

<https://www.leahy.senate.gov/press/statement-on-the-arrest-of-former-honduran-police-chief-juan-carlos-bonilla>

<https://confidencialhn.com/audiencia-de-informacion-del-exjefe-policial-el-tigre-bonilla-se-realizara-en-el-fuerte-general-cabanas/>

<https://twitter.com/jeffgernst/status/1502028490081812486>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/desde-hace-un-ano-esta-la-orden-de-extradicion-contr-el-tigre-bonilla/>

<https://insightcrime.org/honduras-organized-crime-news/arrest-former-honduras-top-cop-raises-stakes-for-embattled-ex-president/>

Libre congressman Ramón Barrios announced to question Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla in Congress once JOH has been extradited. He demands explanations for why Chinchilla has not one after JOH during his two terms as Attorney General.

<https://confidencialhn.com/diputado-advierte-que-interpelara-al-fiscal-general-despues-que-joh-sea-extraditado-a-ee-uu/>

"Many are surprised that Juan Orlando Hernández did not foresee the possibility of his own extradition when he reformed Article 102 of the Constitution of the Republic, as president of the Legislative Branch in 2011. However, according to documentation from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, Hernández did plan to eliminate extradition."

<https://criterio.hn/joh-contemplo-eliminar-extradicion-fiscalia-de-nueva-york/>

COFADEH succeeded in the application of the Amnesty Law to Eduardo Urbina who suffered four years of political persecution and lived in exile.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/cofاده-logra-aplicacion-de-amnistia-para-eduardo-urbina/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/bertha-oliva-toda-persona-que-se-opuso-al-golpe-de-estado-es-amparada-en-decreto-de-amnistia/>

Criterio reports on the re-energized debate about reproductive rights in Honduras under the Xiomara Castro administration.

<https://criterio.hn/a-favor-o-en-contra-de-la-pae-la-encrucijada-del-secretario-de-salud-de-honduras/>

"The new manager of the National Bank for Agricultural Development (Banadesa), Erlin Mejía, said that the institution will once again be the support arm of the agricultural sector in Honduras."

Additionally, the new Minister of Agriculture, Laura Suazo, announced to invest more than 400 million Lempiras in the sector this year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/banadesa-sera-nuevamente-un-apoyo-para-los-productores-del-pais-afirma-nuevo-gerente/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/sag-asegura-que-invertira-mil-400-millones-de-lempiras-para-el-desarrollo-agricola-durante-el-2022/>

An investigation by El Pulso shows how JOH's convicted brother Tony Hernández had his wife employed by the National Electric Energy Company (ENEE) earning over 1 million Lempiras every year.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/10/tony-hernandez-y-jesus-mejia-colocaron-a-sus-cuadros-de-confianza-en-la-enee/>

The US embassy commented on the electricity sector in Honduras recommending the implementation of the General Law of the Electricity Industry.

<https://confidencialhn.com/eeuu-aconseja-implementar-ley-general-de-industria-electrica-en-honduras/>

As announced, the National Police took over control of Honduras' prison yesterday. According to newer reports, four inmates died in a riot inside La Tolve (see yesterday).

<https://confidencialhn.com/policia-recibe-el-mando-de-direccion-y-administracion-de-los-centros-penales/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/reuerta-deja-cuatro-muertos-en-carcel-de-maxima-seguridad-la-tolve-en-moroceli/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/09/unos-200-diplomaticos-de-joh-seran-barridos-de-cancilleria/>

11/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Extractivism - Libre; Extraditions; US; Labor Rights; Violence against Women - UN; Education; and a New National Party?

COPINH published an alert that the defense of David Castillo will be trying to use the Amnesty Law to benefit their defendant. "The Sentencing Court has convened a hearing for Wednesday, March 16 at 9 am for the discussion of this request. The time and day coincide with the extradition hearing of Juan Orlando Hernández and the ruling in the case against former first lady Rosa Bonilla."

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1502353096344842246>

<https://criterio.hn/alertan-que-david-castillo-busca-beneficiarse-con-decreto-de-amnistia/>

"Several appointments of Xiomara Castro's government are strongly questioned, but very few have aroused as much unease as that of the former mayor of Tocoa, Adán Fúnez, as governor of the department of Colón. The member of the Libertad y Refundación (Libre) Party won the elections for mayor of Tocoa, period 2022-2026, and subsequently resigned from the post after his designation as departmental governor. Why the uneasiness of his designation? Throughout his eight years as mayor of Tocoa, he has openly expressed his support for extractive projects such as those that threaten the Guapinol and San Pedro rivers and the Carlos Escaleras National Park."

<https://criterio.hn/distintos-sectores-rechazan-nombramiento-de-adan-funez-como-gobernador-de-colon/>

"Next Tuesday, March 15, a special commission of the National Congress will meet with the president of the Supreme Court of Justice, Rolando Argueta, to receive a report on extradition processes and requests."

It is expected that over the coming weeks and months, more JOH allies will be requested for extradition.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/congreso-nacional-recibira-informe-sobre-procesos-de-extradicion/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/consideran-que-gran-parte-de-los-exfuncionarios-de-la-administracion-de-joh-seran-requeridos-por-la-justicia-de-ee-uu/>

<https://proceso.hn/hay-varios-capturados-que-tienen-pedidos-de-extradicion-revela-ministro-sabillon/>

The US Senate confirmed Laura Farnsworth Dogu as the new ambassador to Honduras. It has been almost five years since the US had an ambassador in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/senado-confirma-a-laura-dogu-como-nueva-embajadora-de-eeuu-en-honduras/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/11/por-que-eeuu-acelera-eleccion-de-embajador-en-honduras/>

After a month of consultations, the fate of the Work by Hour Law will be decided soon in Congress.

<https://criterio.hn/congreso-de-honduras-anuncia-derogacion-de-ley-de-empleo-por-hora/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/congreso-nacional-finaliza-socializacion-para-elaborar-dictamen-de-la-derogatoria-de-ley-de-empleo-por-hora/>

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (SRECI), signed this Friday a pact to counteract violence and discrimination against women in Honduras, the initiative is supported by the United Nations System (UN)."

<https://confidencialhn.com/onu-apoya-pacto-para-contrarrestar-la-violencia-y-discriminacion-hacia-la-mujer-en-honduras/>

According to teacher leader Eulogio Chávez, only 2% of Honduran children have returned to class.

<https://proceso.hn/ni-el-2-de-estudiantes-ha-regresado-a-clases-presenciales-en-honduras-segun-dirigencia-magisterial/>

The National Party announced the creation of a commission for a "reengineering" of the party.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/11/partido-nacional-anuncia-reestructuracion-en-la-institucion/>

12/03/22

Honduras Daily: Budget; Electricity; Prisons; COVID-19 - Vaccines; Violence;

ContraCorriente reports on the financial state of Honduras, a country in a fiscal emergency as declared by the Xiomara administration.

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/03/12/funcionarios-del-gobierno-anterior-cuestionan-informe-que-justifica-la-crisis-financiera-del-estado/>

According to the Association for the Defense of the Basic Food Basket of Honduras (Adecabah), not all households qualifying for subsidized electricity are actually receiving it.

<https://proceso.hn/adecabah-denuncia-loteria-en-aplicacion-de-subsidio-de-energia/>

Mel Zelaya, in his function as presidential advisor, speaks out in favor of a specialized police force administrating the penitentiary system.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/12/zelaya-los-centros-penales-deben-tener-su-propia-policia/>

The president of the Honduran Medical Association (CMH), Helga Codina, criticized the lack of access to vaccines in rural Honduras.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/zona-rural-con-poco-acceso-a-vacunas-en-dos-anos-de-pandemia/>

In 2021, San Pedro Sula and the Central District (Tegucigalpa and Comayagüela) were still amongst the 50 deadliest cities in the world.

<https://confidencial.hn.com/san-pedro-sula-y-el-distrito-central-aparecen-en-ranking-2021-de-las-50-ciudades-mas-violentas-del-mundo/>

13/03/22

Honduras Daily: Violence against Women; Berta - Trial; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Lawyers;

According to the Center for Women's Rights (CDM), every three hours a woman in Honduras is being raped. 900 girls younger than 14 become pregnant after being raped. The CDM calls for an end to impunity in such cases as well as the approval of laws with a victims-centered approach such as the Law for the Prevention of Violence against Women.

<https://tiempo.hn/mujeres-violadas-en-honduras/>

COFADEH's Bertha Oliva comments on the attempt by David Castillo to have the Amnesty Law applied to his case. "[T]he decree is for the non-repetition of the facts, it is for those persecuted during the dictatorship, for the politically persecuted who condemned the coup d'état and the illegal presidential reelection (of Juan Orlando Hernández) and the electoral fraud of 2017". Oliva said that

the amnesty constitutes the beginning of the application of justice for the victims. "Let it be clear to the victimizers, that the decree is not for them, it is for the victims."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/bertha-oliva-que-quede-claro-a-los-victimarios-que-el-decreto-no-es-para-ellos-es-para-las-victimas/>

La Prensa published the first of a five-parts series on the new era of drug trafficking in Honduras. According to the article, the 14 active drug cartels in Honduras traffic drugs worth \$22.5 billion.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/la-nueva-era-del-narco-carteles-trafican-millones-droga-honduras-BY6463289>

This Wednesday, a judge will decide on the extradition of JOH to the US.

<https://proceso.hn/inminentes-capturas-emblematicas/>

Rafael Canales was elected president of the Honduran Bar Association (CAH) on Saturday. He promised an transparent process for the nomination of the 20 lawyers the CAH will present as candidates for the next Supreme Court magistrates.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/nuevo-presidente-cah-rafael-canales-derechos-abogados-honduras-HA6453810>

<https://confidencialhn.com/trataremos-de-dignificar-la-imagen-de-los-profesionales-del-derecho-expresa-nuevo-presidente-del-cah-rafael-canales/>

14/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Drug Trafficking - JOH, Judiciary; Poverty - Fuel Prices; Minimum Wage; Water; Corruption - INM, Mobile Hospitals, de Lobo, Congress; Organized Crime; Taiwan; COPINH continues to warn about David Castillo's attempt to seek impunity through the Amnesty Law.

<https://copinh.org/2022/03/press-release-david-castillo-seeks-impunity-through-amnesty-decree/>

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/copinh-denuncia-que-se-busca-beneficiar-a-david-castillo-con-la-amnistia-politica/>

The CNA published a report on the fall of JOH.

<https://www.cna.hn/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/La-caida-de-un-expresidente-Juan-Orlando-Hernandez.pdf>

Libre congresswoman Silvia Ayala announced that a commission led by Congress' president Luis Redondo is investigating cases of extradition requests ignored by the judiciary.

<https://confidencialhn.com/cn-estudia-la-posibilidad-de-realizar-un-juicio-politico-a-operadores-de-justicia/>

FOSDEH expects a strategy from the Xiomara administration in how to tackle the rising fuel prices.

Xiomara announced on Twitter that the government will absorb 50% of the price increase while evaluating other options.

<https://confidencialhn.com/senalan-que-el-gobierno-debe-establecer-una-estrategia-por-incremento-en-costo-de-los-carburantes/>

<https://twitter.com/XiomaraCastroZ/status/1503372509781110786>

<https://criterio.hn/subsidios-en-combustibles-y-energia-son-necesarios-pero-deben-ser-focalizados/>

"The executive director of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tegucigalpa (CCIT), Rafael Medina, expressed that as a sector of private enterprise they are waiting for the call of the Ministry of Labor to close the negotiation of the adjustment to the minimum wage. He added that to date they have not received a new summons from this state agency to continue with the minimum wage revision talks, so they expect to be summoned "quickly to be able to close this revision in the best way for the Honduran labor market"."

<https://confidencialhn.com/ccit-continua-a-la-espera-de-la-convocatoria-de-la-secretaria-de-trabajo-para-discutir-ajuste-al-salario-minimo/>

Inhabitants of some neighborhoods in Tegucigalpa protested the strict rationing of drinking water. "Water rationing will continue to be more acute since last year little rainfall was received by the dams and for this year it is expected to be the same, according to SANAA technicians. (...) The authorities have indicated that they are looking for ways to ensure that all the population can receive the necessary water."

Jorge Aldana, the new mayor of the capital, admits that they face a difficult situation regarding the drinking water. But he promises water deliveries every week.

<https://confidencialhn.com/por-falta-de-agua-protestan-pobladores-de-la-zona-sur-de-la-capital/>

<https://tiempo.hn/jorge-aldana-cada-7-dias-llegaria-agua-capital/>

The director of the National Migration Institute (INM), Allan Fernando Alvarenga, requested an audit of the institute he leads. "These were 12 years of an administration marked by acts of corruption and in that sense we want to know in what condition we received the institution," he said and added that "we will be transparent, we will give the population access to information about the finances."

<https://confidencialhn.com/instituto-nacional-de-migracion-pide-una-auditoria-al-tribunal-superior-de-cuentas/>

The Constitutional Chamber dismissed an appeal by Marco Bográn in the corruption case regarding the mobile hospitals.

The court is now free to sentence him.

<https://confidencialhn.com/sala-de-lo-constitucional-falla-en-contra-de-marco-bogran-en-el-caso-de-hospitales-moviles/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/tribunal-luz-verde-sentenciar-marco-bogran-compra-hospitales-moviles-KL6490158>

Tomorrow, the ruling of the re-trial in the case of the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo is expected.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/03/14/ex-primera-dama-de-honduras-me-acusan-de-fraude-y-creo-que-la-defraudada-fui-yo/>

After four years, a judge reactivated the MACCIH-era corruption case Congressional Networks.

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1503574049665990657

The MP denounces that a gang leader could walk free after two years in pre-trial detention because the courts failed to swiftly deal with the delay tactics of his defense.

The same day, the "court granted a motion for reconsideration filed by the prosecutor's office, revoking the resolution of the substitution of the preventive measure of pre-trial detention".

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/peligroso-cabecilla-de-pandilla-a-punto-de-salir-en-libertad-por-falta-de-accion-del-tribunal-de-sentencia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/a-punto-de-salir-en-libertad-presunto-jefe-de-la-ms-13-el-cholo-houston-segun-el-mp/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/prision-preventiva-cabecilla-ms-13-cholo-houston-esposa-LN6492973>

Taiwan will donate to Honduras a \$700'000 voting system for Congress to make the process more transparent.

<https://proceso.hn/gobierno-de-china-taiwan-donara-sistema-de-votacion-al-congreso-nacional/>

15/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH, Judiciary; Amnesty; Berta - Trial; Extractivism - Libre; Corruption - JOH, Congress, de Lobo; Prisons; COHEP; and Commemorating Satuyé

"A month after former Honduran president Juan Orlando Hernández was arrested on drug trafficking and related weapons charges, a hearing will be held Wednesday in the capital, Tegucigalpa, to decide whether or not he will be extradited to the United States. (...) In all other extradition cases, the judge has presented the decision the same day as the hearing, though that could take longer in the high profile case of the former president who left office in January. (...) Legal analysts agree that there is little recourse for a person who is wanted for extradition to the United States. "Extradition is a mere procedure, more administrative than judicial," said Pineda.

"The judiciary intervenes but they are simply saying that we want to try this person and the debate on whether that person is guilty or not will take place in the judicial system of the requesting country." The only issues that could have impeded the extradition are if Hernández had already served time for the crime, if he were currently facing criminal charges in Honduras or if the statute of limitations had run out, explained Pineda. Prior to the arrest, Hernández and his lawyers had cited supposed immunity due to his status as a legislator for the Central American Parliament, but the arrest itself disproved that argument."

JOH's defense team tried, unsuccessfully, to move the extradition hearing from the Supreme Court to the installations of the COBRAS special forces.

With the publication of the CNA report yesterday (see e-mails), media outlet try to answer how much money the JOH clan has amassed over the previous years.

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/latin-america/honduras-hernandez-extradition-wednesday>

<https://criterio.hn/juan-orlando-hernandez-el-hombre-que-intentara-refutar-la-orden-de-extradicion-de-la-justicia-estadounidense/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/desestiman-solicitud-de-la-secretaria-de-seguridad-de-realizar-audiencia-de-joh-en-instalaciones-de-los-cobras/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/cuantos-bienes-tiene-expresidente-juan-orlando-hernandez-joh-cuanto-estan-valorados-extradicion-honduras-narcotrafico-XC6501541>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/la-fortuna-que-juan-orlando-hernandez-amasa-junto-a-su-familia-YE6503133>

"The deputies of the National Congress do not discard the possibility of questioning the Attorney General of the Republic and the magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice, in order to submit them to impeachment for actions contrary to the interests of the population and for the multiple denunciations that exist in the performance of their duties. The vice-president of the National Congress, Fátima Mena, said in Radio Progreso that to achieve the impeachment trial 86 votes are needed, which could be obtained with the new deputies of the National Party who, so far, have shown their interest in improving the reality of the country. For political analyst Elvin Hernández, the approval of an impeachment trial against the Attorney General and magistrates of the Court, is a vital issue for the country, because it has been proven that these officials have only worked to benefit Juan Orlando Hernández and his criminal structure."

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/demandan-aplicar-juicio-politico-a-fiscal-general-y-a-presidente-de-la-cjs/>

<https://criterio.hn/comision-del-congreso-inicia-investigacion-sobre-actuar-de-la-corte-y-fiscalia-en-tema-de-extradiciones/>

The congressional commission responsible for investigating extradition requests held a meeting with the president of the Supreme Court, Rolando Argueta. He informed them that there are still 32 pending extradition requests.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/hay-32-solicitudes-de-extradicion-segun-el-poder-judicial/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/97-hondurenos-han-sido-solicitados-en-extradicion-por-eeuu/>

The Amnesty Law has been applied to 11 political prisoners from Pimienta, Cortés. Their criminalization goes back to the post-electoral protests in 2017.

The application of the law was denied, for a second time, to the case of the former mayor of San Pedro Sula, Rodolfo Padilla Sunseri.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/tribunal-de-sentencia-aplica-decreto-de-ampnestia-a-once-presos-politicos-de-pimienta-cortes/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/por-segunda-ocasion-deniegan-solicitud-de-ampnestia-a-padilla-sunseri/>

OACNUDH also expresses concerns that the legal team of David Castillo requested the application of the Amnesty Law to their client (see previous days).

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDH/HN/status/1503912795573788675>

"Today, residents in Colon occupied Gov't & Justice building that will be used by mayor of Tocoa, Adan Funes, in protest of his new appointment as Governor of Colon. Funes is responsible for

permitting an illegal mine & has been mentioned in NY for involvement in drug trafficking" (see previous e-mails).

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1503940032293392391>

"The decree repealing the regulation known as "Secrecy Law" is in the process of being sanctioned by the Executive Branch to be published in the Official Gazette La Gaceta. The institutions that withheld information adhering to this law, have a period of two months to explain why they reserved it, otherwise, all information that was classified during the administration of Juan Orlando Hernández (2014-2022) must be published in the transparency portals under the supervision of the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP)."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/03/15/con-la-derogacion-de-la-ley-de-secretos-se-debe-publicar-la-informacion-clasificada-por-el-gobierno-anterior/>

Criterio has more on the reactivation of the Congressional Networks corruption case (see yesterday).

Criterio also has an article on how four members of Congress are still active even though they had been disqualified for holding office.

<https://criterio.hn/justicia-reactiva-caso-red-de-diputados-con-el-que-la-macchih-inicio-lucha-anticorrupcion/>

<https://criterio.hn/por-que-diputados-que-fueron-inhabilitados-continuan-ocupando-su-cargo-y-legislando/>

The conclusion of the re-trial against the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo has been postponed by one day to tomorrow.

<https://proceso.hn/reprograman-para-el-jueves-lectura-de-sentencia-en-repeticion-de-juicio-oral-a-rosa-elena-bonilla/>

Prison authorities are considering closing the prison in La Ceiba once the El Porvenir prison in Atlántida goes forward with its planned expansion.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/analizan-cerrar-la-carcel-de-la-ceiba-y-reubicar-a-su-poblacion-AY6504750>

The private business lobby COHEP elected a new president, Mateo Yibrín.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/15/nuevo-lider-del-cohep-se-compromete-a-fortalecer-la-inversion-en-el-pais/>

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1503952610449137665>

16/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH; Berta - National Party, Trial, ENEE; Guapinol; HRDs - UN; Congress - Corruption, US; COVID-19 - Health Sector, Vaccines; Extortion; Education; Elections - EU; and Not Forgetting Our Past

"CONFIRMED: Honduran judge approves ex-President Juan Orlando Hernandez's extradition to the U.S. to stand trial for drug trafficking & weapons charges".

"Pending a possible appeal, Juan Orlando Hernández, who left office in January after eight years in power, is one step closer to being at the mercy of the US federal courts, where he is charged as part of a vast drug trafficking conspiracy. In the event of an appeal, the case would be decided by a majority of the 15-member Supreme Court in about a week."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1504292466110967808>

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/latin-america/honduran-supreme-court-extradition-ex-president-hernandez>

<https://criterio.hn/se-va-joh-para-nueva-york-juez-concede-extradicion/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/honduras-aprueba-extradicion-juan-orlando-hernandez-acusado-narcotrafico-eeuu-XX6514451>

Video: <https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1504115248621568008>

"Tonight March 16 in Tegucigalpa, members and sympathizers of the National Party cause riots outside the Supreme Court of Justice and set fire to the Viva Berta Feminist Camp. The violent reaction against the symbol of feminist and popular justice, took place after the judge authorized the extradition of Juan Orlando Hernandez to the United States at the request of that country."

<https://im-defensoras.org/2022/03/alerta-urgente-honduras-miembros-y-simpatizantes-del-partido-nacional-prenden-fuego-al-campamento-feminista-viva-berta/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1504301573899530241>

The hearing in the case of David Castillo in which it will be decided if the Amnesty Law will be applied in his case was postponed to Friday, 8.30am.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1504236559347986440>

COPINH denounces that the former head of the National Electric Energy Company (ENEE), Roberto Martínez, also requested to have the Amnesty Law applied to his case.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1504264181704503299>

The freed Guapinol defenders have still not received their letters of release denouncing negligence by the Judiciary.

<https://twitter.com/guapinolre/status/1504158576234881026>

"The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Honduras (OACNUDH) joins the expression of concern of the UN independent experts [1] who sent a letter of allegations [2] to the State of Honduras for the possible misuse of criminal law against human rights defender Fabio Almendarez Pereira, in the context of reforms to the Penal Code approved on October 7, 2021. (...) Mr. Fabio Almendarez was charged for allegedly committing the crime of usurpation against Sociedad Mercantil Inversiones Kiel SA de CV (KIELSA) in 2009, however, the proceeding was provisionally dismissed. In 2016 the case was reopened and Mr. Almendarez was convicted, but the ordered eviction was not carried out. Recently, on November 5, 2021, the defendant was again charged with the crime of usurpation".

<https://oacnudh.hn/expertos-y-expertas-independientes-de-la-onu-expresan-su-preocupacion-frente-a-la-criminalizacion-contra-el-defensor-del-medio-ambiente-fabio-almendarez-pereira/>

"The Ethics and Transparency Commission, chaired by Congressman Carlos Umaña, and the Anti-Corruption Commission, headed by Congresswoman Fátima Mena, met with representatives of the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) to sign an agreement to combat the scourge."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/16/congreso-nacional-y-cna-suscriben-convenio-anticorrupcion/>

The US embassy met with president of Congress, Luis Redondo.

<https://twitter.com/usembassyhn/status/1504147850489380865>

<https://confidencialhn.com/el-gobierno-de-los-eeuu-apoyara-al-congreso-nacional-en-proyectos-para-combatir-la-corrupcion-e-impunidad/>

In its last two months in office, the JOH regime handed out permanent contracts boating the State's expenses. Libre congressman Fabricio Sandoval now presented a bill to nullify this.

As contracts had also been handed out in the health sector, the Honduran Medical Association (CMH) now opposes the bill.

So does the National Association of Nurses (ANNEAH).

Congressman Sandoval even needed police protection when confronted with protesters.

The JOH regime was well aware that there was no money for these contracts and it can be seen as another effort to undermine the Xiomara administration.

<https://confidencialhn.com/diputado-fabricio-sandoval-presenta-proyecto-para-cancelar-plazas-ilegales-otorgadas-entre-diciembre-de-2021-y-enero-del-2022/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/colegio-medico-solicita-al-congreso-nacional-detener-decreto-para-suprimir-acuerdos-laborales-en-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/aneeah-da-un-plazo-de-24-horas-al-congreso-nacional-para-retirar-decreto-que-derogaria-acuerdos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ante-enojo-del-personal-sanitario-custodiado-sacan-de-la-sesal-al-diputado-fabricio-sandoval/>

Honduras received another batch of almost 350'000 vaccine doses through COVAX.

<https://twitter.com/ONU Honduras/status/1504321453289885700>

ContraCorriente reports on extortion in San Pedro Sula and how it paralyzes the transport sector.

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/03/16/san-pedro-sula-inmersa-en-una-nueva-ola-de-amenazas-por-extorsion/>

"Every one agrees that the pandemic was no longer the main problem for the 2022 return to school, whose enrollment process was extended until March, the obstacle encompasses a whole social problem, starting with poverty, which reaches more than 70 percent of the population."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-la-pobreza-es-el-principal-impedimento-para-el-retorno-a-clases-presenciales/>

The EU will present its final report on the 2021 general elections this Friday.

<https://criterio.hn/mision-de-la-union-europea-presentara-informe-final-sobre-elecciones-de-noviembre/>

"Honduras will host the second Central American Meeting of Memory, to be held in May during the International Week of the Disappeared Detainee, in compliance with one of the agreements reached at the first meeting held in Guatemala City, organized by the Central American Memory Network."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-sera-la-sede-del-segundo-encuentro-centroamericano-de-memoria/>

17/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH; Berta - Trial; ZEDEs; Corruption - Congress, de Lobo; Women's Rights; US; Health Sector; Agriculture; and No More Tears

Every one expects JOH's legal team to appeal the extradition to the US. This would mean that the majority of the 15-member Supreme Court would have to decide on his fate.

While unlikely that the Supreme Court would offend the US in denying the extradition, it is JOH's Supreme Court after all. And this was shown again on Wednesday. After the judge ruled to allow for his extradition (see yesterday), JOH was allowed by his close friend and president of the Supreme Court, Rolando Argueta, to record a video talking to the Honduran people...

UFERCO's Luis Santos called it "REPROCHABLE, it shows the weakness of our institutions".

For others it further highlighted the need to impeach Argueta.

Luis Santos also addressed the members of the Security and Defense Council: "All those who were part of the DEFENSE COUNCIL, who still hold public office, for dignity should RESIGN, at that level they knew everything that was going on in the country and gave instructions. If they did not know that JOH was a drug trafficker, they were inefficient and if they knew, for hiding it."

Joaquín Mejía also called out other pillars that had sustained JOH against all evidence: corporate media outlets, the business community, evangelical churches and powerful members of the Catholic church, as well as some NGOs, especially the Association of a More Just Society (ASJ).

With JOH's fate hopefully sealed, the question arises what will happen with the former first lady Anna García?

And related to this, when will the properties of JOH's be seized? "The General Procurator's Office of the Republic (PGR), through the Procurator General, requested the Public Prosecutor's Office to proceed immediately to request, before the competent jurisdictional body, measures of seizure and confiscation of all assets in the name of former President Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/17/recurso-de-apelacion-ultima-carta-de-hernandez-para-evitar-extradicion/>

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/no-pasara-nada-con-recurso-de-apelacion-bogado-raul-alvarado/>

<https://criterio.hn/a-un-paso-de-su-extradicion-joh-solicita-mas-privilegios-desde-la-silla-del-titular-de-la-corte-suprema/>

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1504649513079910417

https://twitter.com/Kevin_HN1/status/1504570588517515269

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1504458237499908104

<https://criterio.hn/medios-empresarios-religiosos-y-ong-son-columnas-que-sostuvieron-estructura-de-joh-joaquin-mejia/>

<https://criterio.hn/que-pasara-con-ana-garcia-la-exprimera-dama-de-honduras/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/piden-asegurar-e-incautar-bienes-de-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://proceso.hn/pgr-solicita-al-mp-el-inmediato-aseguramiento-de-bienes-del-expresidente-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

COFADEH concluded that David Castillo does not meet the requirement to have the Amnesty Law applied to his case. Hopefully the court comes to the same conclusion today.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1504566796816371718>

"PBI recently accompanied ASODEBICOQ during an open town hall and during a meeting on the community development of Regadillos. In the open town hall, Quimistán was declared free of ZEDES and ratified free of mining and hydroelectric plants."

<https://pbicanada.org/2022/03/17/pbi-honduras-accompanies-asodebicoq-at-town-hall-meeting-that-declares-quimistan-free-of-mining-dams-and-zedes/>

In an important step, Congress reformed another of the problematic JOH-era laws undermining corruption investigations.

"The National Congress approved the return of investigative powers to the Public Prosecutor's Office (MP) and ordered the Superior Court of Accounts (TSC) to forward all files on corruption cases to the Public Prosecutor's Office within 15 days."

<https://twitter.com/jeffgernst/status/1504579628773609475>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/17/congreso-nacional-aprueba-reforma-a-la-ley-organica-del-tsc/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/17/congreso-aprueba-devolver-facultades-investigativas-al-mp/>

<https://proceso.hn/congreso-aprueba-devolver-facultades-investigativas-al-mp/>

The re-trial ended as the first trial did, the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo was convicted for corruption.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/mp-logra-declaratoria-de-culpabilidad-en-el-caso-caja-chica-de-la-dama/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/culpable-ex-primera-dama-rosa-elena-bonilla-vuelve-a-la-carcel/>

<https://proceso.hn/culpable-a-exprimera-dama-rosa-bonilla-por-apropiacion-continuada/>

"On International Women's Day, different feminist organizations demanded the recognition of the rights of Honduran women. This was joined by President Xiomara Castro, who presented before the Legislative - led that day by female deputies - the Integral Law Against Gender Violence. However, the Emergency Contraceptive Pill (PAE) and the decriminalization of abortion on three grounds are issues still not addressed by the present administration; nor by the National Congress, a governmental body dominated by men."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/03/17/la-pae-y-la-despenalizacion-del-aborto-en-honduras-fueron-temas-ignorados-el-dia-de-la-mujer/>

"Under Secretary of State Jose W. Fernandez will travel to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on March 17 and San José, Costa Rica, on March 19 to engage with government officials, business leaders, and civil society to support regional investment objectives, health and environment programs, and pandemic relief."

<https://www.state.gov/under-secretary-fernandezs-travel-to-honduras-and-costa-rica/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/subsecretario-de-economia-energia-y-medioambiente-de-eeuu-llega-a-honduras/>

"The deputy of the Libertad y Refundación (Libre) party, Fabricio Sandoval, withdrew the bill that calls for the repeal of the granting of permanent positions to front-line workers, after the annoyance and indignation of some health employees in the Ministry of Health (SESAL)." (see yesterday)

<https://confidencialhn.com/diputado-mauricio-sandoval-retira-proyecto-que-pide-derogar-otorgamiento-de-plazas-permanentes-a-empleados-de-primer-linea/>

"The deputy of the National Congress for the Libertad y Refundación (Libre) party, Jari Dixon, presented this Thursday a bill so that the lands in possession of the Office for the Administration of Seized Property (OABI) become the property of peasant groups in Honduras."

<https://confidencialhn.com/proponen-en-el-congreso-nacional-traspasar-tierras-incautadas-a-grupos-de-campesinos/>

<https://proceso.hn/diputado-castellanos-propone-vender-bombas-lacrimogenas-y-el-dinero-transferirlo-a-salud/>

18/03/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Berta - Trial; Garífunas; Drug Trafficking - JOH, US; Corruption - UN, de Lobo, Mobile Hospitals; SSF; Health Sector; Elections - EU; Migration; US;

"The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Honduras (OHCHR) condemns the murder of human rights defender Francisco Ruiz, who suffered a gun attack on March 8 in the village of La Brea, in the municipality of Trujillo, department of Colón, and died the following day while undergoing surgery. Francisco Ruiz was recognized by the Plataforma Agraria Regional del Valle del Aguán and the Coordinadora de Organizaciones Populares del Aguán (COPA) as a human rights defender for his support to the subsistence economic activities of the peasants of the El Remolino cooperative."

<https://oacnudh.hn/oacnudh-condena-el-asesinato-del-defensor-de-derechos-humanos-francisco-ruiz/>

The hearing for David Castillo was postponed a second time.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1504849372135272451>

"20 months today since 4 young Garifuna leaders in Honduras were kidnapped & disappeared in Honduras by men wearing govt security forces gear."

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1504866713187364864>

The request by the PGR to have the properties of JOH seized (see yesterday) is without value and effect because JOH filed an appeal which the MP has not yet resolved.

<https://confidencialhn.com/dejan-sin-valor-y-efecto-solicitud-de-la-pgr-de-incautar-los-bienes-del-expresidente-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

The police captured Tokiro Rodas Ramirez who has been requested for extradition since 2014. "This capture was made almost 8 years later, due to the connections and ties of Mr. Ramírez, who is linked to members of the Pinto Cartel, who in turn have been associated with Juan Orlando Hernández."

https://twitter.com/Prohn_Honduras/status/1505003927074398215

Last month, the Xiomara administration sent an official request to the UN for the installation of an international anti-corruption body in Honduras. According to the foreign minister Eduardo Enrique Reina the UN responded and will send "an exploratory commission to define the mechanisms and its subsequent establishment".

<https://criterio.hn/onu-enviara-comitiva-exploratoria-para-definir-instauracion-de-la-cicih/>

Pepe Lobo announced to appeal the conviction of his wife Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo (see yesterday).

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/18/expresidente-lobo-asegura-que-apelara-el-fallo-en-cotra-de-la-exprimera-dama/>

"Ramón Barrios, member of the deputies' commission that investigates extraditions and other issues in the justice system, said that the Attorney General of the Republic, Óscar Fernando Chinchilla, revealed to them that the money for the purchase of the mobile hospitals ended up deposited in tax havens."

<https://proceso.hn/el-25-de-dinero-de-hospitales-moviles-quedo-a-axel-lopez-el-resto-en-paraisos-fiscales-revelo-a-diputados-el-fiscal-general/>

"Junior Alfredo Godoy Velásquez, will face trial today, three years after being a victim of torture and illegal detention by police officers assigned to the Villa Nueva and Kennedy neighborhoods in the capital. In spite of all the physical and emotional torture caused by the police officers' blows, the Public Prosecutor's Office charged him with the alleged crime of "Attempt against the State of Honduras".

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/a-juicio-joven-victima-de-policias/>

The debate in Congress about what to do with the permanent contracts handed out by the JOH regime in its last days in office continues (see last two days). A new attempt now aims to withdraw the legal basis for the contracts but not for front-line medical workers.

<https://confidencialhn.com/congreso-nacional-reforma-decretos-que-otorgan-acuerdos-a-empleados-publicos-sin-afectar-al-personal-de-primera-linea-y-maestros-proheco/>

The EU presented its final report on the 2021 general elections. The report includes 23 recommendations, among them to strengthen the National Electoral Council (CNE) as well as the fiscal unit overseeing campaign finances.

<https://criterio.hn/despolitizar-y-garantizar-independencia-financiera-del-cne-entre-recomendaciones-electorales-de-la-union-europea/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/18/otra-vez-europa-recomienda-reforzar-ley-electoral-cne-y-politica-limpia/>

According to human rights defender Itsmania Platero, more than 7000 Hondurans have left the country so far this year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mas-de-7-mil-hondurenos-han-salido-del-pais-rumbo-a-ee-uu-segun-un-informe-de-las-autoridades-de-mexico/>

Xiomara met with Under Secretary of State Jose W. Fernandez. El Libertador reports that he announce possible investments by US companies in Honduras worth \$1.2 billion.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/18/urgente-eeuu-anuncia-inversion-de-30-mil-millones-en-honduras/>
19/03/22

Honduras Daily: Durg Trafficking - JOH, Yani; Elections – EU;

As expected, JOH's defense team appealed the extradition. JOH's fate will now be decided by the 15-person Supreme Court.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/defensa-juan-orlando-hernandez-interpone-apelacion-corte-suprema-justicia-JM6619784>

Convicted drug trafficker and former Liberal presidential candidate Yani Rosenthal announced that the US Office of Foreign Assets Control withdrew him from their list. He now demands the return of his seized goods and properties.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/19/rosenthal-es-retirado-de-la-lista-de-ofac-pide-que-oabi-devuelva-bienes/>

President Xiomara Castro met with the head of the Electoral Observation Mission of the EU, Željana Zovko. The mission had returned to Honduras to present their final report on the 2021 general elections (see yesterday).

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-castro-se-reune-con-jefa-de-la-moe-ue-para-conversar-sobre-el-informe-final-de-elecciones/>

20/03/22

Honduras Daily: Extractivism; Minimum Wage; Corruption; Health Sector;

CESPAD published an analysis on what should follow the declaration of a Honduras free of open pit mining. "The elements outlined in the previous section should be presented in proposals for post-extractivist transitions mentioned above: moving from a predatory mining extractivism to a sensible one. In this sense, this transition requires the implementation of environmental controls, state subsidies for the reconversion of the community economy, the creation of regional economic blocks and social regulation, with greater participation of society in the creation of public policies. It is a strategic bet on sustainable and self-centered territorial development, in the midst of an institutional political change. In conclusion, to declare a country free of open-pit mining is to respond, strategically, with alternative forms of development promoted by the mining extractivism that has operated in Honduras to date. The challenge includes building our own models of environmental justice and self-centered sustainable territorial development, taking into account current public policies, the experience of socio-environmental movements and their realities."

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/03/20/honduras-libre-de-mineria-a-cielo-abierto-y-ahora-que/>

Labor leaders denounce the lack of interests by the business sector to negotiate the new minimum wage.

<https://proceso.hn/dirigencia-obrera-cuestiona-poca-voluntad-para-negociar-nuevo-salario-minimo-en-honduras/>

It came to light that another JOH ally, his former Foreign Minister Lisandro Rosales, has been investigated since 2021. The MP has been looking into his Panamanian bank accounts. Rosales, as other JOH allies, has left Honduras after JOH lost power.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/desde-ano-pasado-investigarian-cuentas-lisandro-rosales-panama-canciller-lavado-activos-honduras-HE6622845>

<https://confidencialhn.com/lisandro-rosales-asegura-que-tratan-de-denigrarlo/>

Congress made some reforms to the decree from the JOH-era which gave permanent contracts to many public employees, a lot of them Nationalist activists (see last days). Now, the Minister of Health, José Matheu, has the task to determine the people who benefited who are front line health workers. They will be able to keep their contract.

Health workers suspended an announced strike for today.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/titular-salud-determinara-personal-primera-linea-recibira-acuerdos-CD6630114>

<https://proceso.hn/empleados-de-salud-a-paro-nacional-a-partir-de-este-lunes/>

21/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH, National Party; Garífuna; Surveillance; Public Health - Tolupán; Amnesty; Climate Crisis; Debt - IMF; Migration;

In their appeal to stop the extradition of JOH, his defense team claim that there are 32 legal complaints filed against him at the MP and they further asked the Supreme Court to determine if JOH has immunity as a member of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN). Many informed commentators, including the head of UFERCO, had highlighted that the PARLACEN membership does not protect JOH from an extradition, lets hope the Supreme Court also sees it that way. The 32 alleged legal complaints are also interesting because a previous request filed to the MP had them saying that there were no open investigation against JOH and this is the determining factor when deciding about the extradition.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/32-causas-abiertas-expresidente-joh-honduras-defensa-extradicion-JY6661469>

<https://confidencialhn.com/se-debe-esperar-a-que-la-corte-centroamericana-de-justicia-informe-si-inmunidad-del-parlacen-aplica-para-terceros-paises-defensa-de-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/defensa-de-joh-busca-todas-las-instancias-para-evitar-extradicion/>

El Pulso reports on how a recent arrest in the US of a previously unknown woman, Kemsy Torres, further highlights the connections between the National Party and drug trafficking. Kemsy was together with the drug lord Fredy Mármol who had been handed over to US authorities in October 2021. Mármol worked with Tony Hernández, JOH's brother, and El Pulso reports that Torres had links to the Nationalist member of Congress Yaudet Burbara as well as the Nationalist candidate for the mayor of Tegucigalpa, David Chávez.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/21/arresto-de-dama-en-ee-uu-reafirma-nexos-entre-narco-marmol-y-nacionalistas/>

"The Garífuna community of Tornabé, located in Tela, Atlántida, is part of the Blanca Jeannette Kawas National Park, and its residents are concerned about the rapid advance of African palm plantations."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/comunidad-garifuna-de-tornabe-amenazada-por-siembra-descontrolada-de-palma-africana/>

"Osman Reyes Pavón, spokesman for the main intelligence and security body of the Honduran State, asked on Monday to investigate if during the administration of former President Juan Orlando Hernández, who is awaiting extradition to the United States on drug trafficking charges, spying was practiced on the press, politicians, bankers and businessmen. The also president of the College of Journalists of Honduras (CPH,) and Communication Manager of the National Emergency System, 911, a governmental national security agency integrated by military and police, asked for the investigation of the eight years of Hernández's government (2014-2022), as well as the previous administrations."

<https://criterio.hn/vocero-del-911-pide-investigar-espionaje-en-gobiernos-de-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

Health Minister Manuel Matheu informs that they will confirm the contracts of some 3000 front line health workers (see previous days).

<https://confidencial.hn.com/3-mil-acuerdos-seran-otorgados-en-los-proximos-dias-informa-ministro-de-salud/>

The indigenous Tolupán tribe from San Francisco de Locomapa together with human rights organizations denounced the indifference of the municipal officials of the department of Yoro, in the face of the lethargy for the reopening of the Toluán Medical Clinic.

<https://criterio.hn/pueblo-tolupan-exige-reapertura-de-clinica-medica-municipal-de-locomapa/>

"Attorney Ripza Antunez, informed this Monday that the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) gave definitive dismissal to 22 union members of the National Autonomous University (Sitraunah) after the Secretary of Human Rights granted them Political Amnesty. The Political Amnesty law decree recently approved by the National Congress has benefited the sector of the directors of the UNAH, in the context of the political persecution to which they have been subjected by the justice entities and especially by the dictatorship led by Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado."

<https://confidencialhn.com/csj-da-sobreseimiento-definitivo-a-22-sindicalistas-del-sitraunah-tras-beneficiarse-de-la-amnistia-politica/>

<https://proceso.hn/sobreseen-via-amnistia-a-22-sindicalistas-de-la-unah/>

The Xiomara administration declared a "environmental emergency" in Honduras and presented a rescue plan for natural areas.

This includes actions to protect the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve.

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-de-honduras-declara-emergencia-ambiental-por-devastacion-del-medio-ambiente/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ante-emergencia-en-biosfera-del-rio-platano-gobierno-tomara-acciones-para-solventar-problematica/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/21/alerta-gobierno-castro-cierra-carretera-ilegal-en-rio-platano/>

According to FOSDEH, a IMF mission will come to Honduras to revise the state finances.

Economist and former aspiring presidential candidate for Libre, Nelson Ávila, denounces that the JOH regime left Honduras with a "corrupt debt" and he wants the IMF to investigate this.

Finance Minister Rixi Moncada announced that last week Honduras paid almost 14 billion Lempiras to service its debt.

This is only 25% of the debt that needs to be serviced this year alone.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fosdeh-anuncia-que-llegara-a-honduras-una-mision-del-fondo-monetario-internacional/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/una-deuda-corrupta-de-l-7-mil-millones-hereda-el-gobierno-de-joh-reprocha-economista-nelson-avila/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/21/finanzas-realiza-pago-de-13-mil-millones-de-lempiras-en-concepto-de-deuda/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/13-mil-millones-de-lempiras-que-fueron-abonados-representa-el-25-de-la-deuda-a-pagar-este-ano-senala-hugo-noe-pino/>

El Libertador reports on the difficult situation of migrants stranded in Honduras but wanting to head to the US.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/21/migrantes-varados-en-danli-piden-ayuda-a-xiomara/>

22/03/22

Honduras Daily: Guapinol; Human Rights - UN; HRDs; Land Rights; Drug Trafficking - Extradition; Corruption - Congress, Mobile Hospitals; Migration; Water - SANAA; Housing; Education; Remittances; and Extradition or Revolution?

"Although the Supreme Court of Justice annulled the trial against the Guapinol defenders, the Trujillo Court denied the definitive dismissal of the eight environmentalists who spent 914 days in illegal detainment. Juana Zúniga, member of the Municipal Committee in Defense of the Common and Public Goods of Tocoa and partner of one of the eight defenders prosecuted, told Criterio.hn that contrary to the final ruling they were expecting regarding the letters of release, they were informed that they were provisionally granted."

<https://criterio.hn/tribunal-de-trujillo-niega-sobreseimiento-definitivo-a-defensores-de-guapinol/>

OANCUDH presented its yearly report on the human rights situation in Honduras yesterday.

The report includes 17 recommendations for the State of Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/pobreza-desigualdad-discriminacion-violencia-e-impunidad-caracterizaron-la-situacion-de-ddhh-durante-el-2021-en-honduras-oacnudh/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/la-oacnudh-hace-17-recomendaciones-al-estado-de-honduras/>

The Guardian reports on the situation of human rights defenders in Honduras. So far this year, the UN documented three murders of defenders, in 2021, they documented 302 attacks among them 10 murders.

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/mar/22/two-murders-in-a-week-honduran-activists-risk-death-to-defend-rights>

Community members from various places in El El Progreso held a rally outside the mayor's office demanding access to land titles as they face eviction orders.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/pobladores-de-el-progreso-yoro-demandan-legalizacion-de-sus-tierras/>

A court denied the application of the reformed Money Laundering Law (a controversial reform during the JOH regime undermining the purpose of the law) to the case of the former mayor of Talanga, Roosevelt Eduardo Aviléz López, and his family, all accused with drug trafficking related charges.

The former mayor of San Pedro Sula Rodolfo Padilla Sunseri, meanwhile, does not give up and had his defense team request the application of the Amnesty Law to his case for a third (!) time.

<https://confidencialhn.com/tribunal-deniega-solicitud-de-aplicar-reforma-de-la-ley-de-lavado-de-activos-a-exalcalde-de-talanga-y-su-circulo-familiar/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/solicitan-beneficio-del-decreto-de-amnistia-para-exvocero-del-alcalde-kilgore-y-padilla-sunseri/>

The Supreme Court announced to hand over the complete list of those wanted for extradition to the special congressional commission on the topic.

<https://proceso.hn/csj-enviara-este-miercoles-a-comision-del-cn-lista-de-ordenes-de-capturas-de-extraditables/>

"The previous National Congress (2018-2022) paid around 14 million lempiras per month to some 700 contract employees who did not have fixed assignments, this was revealed in a report presented by the current president of the Legislative, Luis Redondo."

The congressional Anti-Corruption Commission is also investigating laws approved under the previous Congress which did not meet the requirements to be approved, for example by not having the right amount of members voting for them.

<https://confidencialhn.com/congreso-anterior-pagaba-14-millones-de-lempiras-mensuales-a-casi-700-empleados/>

<https://criterio.hn/comision-del-congreso-de-honduras-investiga-aprobacion-arbitraria-de-leyes-en-administracion-anterior/>

"Political actors questioned the work of Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla for revealing before the legislative committee that there are six ex-officials implicated in the mobile hospital case, but that they do not have a prosecutorial requirement."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/22/cuestionan-al-fiscal-general-por-no-perseguir-a-implicados-en-hospitales-moviles/>

USAID and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) presented a joint report on migration dynamics in the Norther Triangle countries and the reintegration of deported migrants.

USAID also presented the project "Creating my future here".

<https://confidencialhn.com/usa-id-y-la-oim-presentan-informe-sobre-migracion-en-el-triangu-lo-norte-de-c-a/>

<https://proceso.hn/usa-id-lanza-proyecto-creando-mi-futuro-aqui-para-prevenir-la-migracion-irregular/>

The drinking water situation in the capital continues to be tense.

<https://confidencialhn.com/senalan-que-el-abastecimiento-de-agua-potable-es-una-situacion-que-se-pone-gris/>

The new head of the National Autonomous Service of Aqueducts and Sewerage (SANAA), Leonel Gómez, asked the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) for assistance in carrying out a forensic audit of the institution which suffered a lot under the JOH regime.

<https://confidencialhn.com/se-les-acabo-la-fiesta-a-los-activistas-en-el-sanaa-leonel-gomez-al-solicitar-al-cna-una-auditoria-forense-para-castigar-a-los-responsables/>

"The Government, through the Secretariat of Development and Social Inclusion (SEDIS), set up an intersectoral roundtable to socialize the new models of solidarity housing, in order to improve the living conditions of the poorest Honduran families and reduce the housing deficit of 1.4 million households throughout the country."

<https://confidencialhn.com/ante-deficit-habitacional-gobierno-presenta-nuevos-modelos-de-viviendas-solidarias/>

"The authorities announced that there will be a renegotiation of the Teachers' Statute which remained inactive for a decade after a decision taken by the previous nationalist government. The Secretary of Education, Daniel Sponda, announced that there is a disposition on the part of President Xiomara Castro to renegotiate the regulation, and that this was part of her campaign promises."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/22/el-ejecutivo-anuncia-que-renegociara-con-maestros-el-estatuto-del-docente/>

Remittances sent to Honduras in the first two months of 2022 were 25.8% higher than in 2021.

<https://proceso.hn/las-remesas-en-honduras-suben-el-25-8-entre-enero-y-febrero/>

<https://criterio.hn/extradicion-en-vez-de-revolucion-yo-no-voy-a-celebrar/>

23/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH, Extradition; Violence against Women; Amnesty; Corruption - Secrecy Law; Congress; US; Militarization - Agriculture; Electoral Bodies;

The Supreme Court admitted the appeal by JOH and they held a plenary session to decide on his extradition. At the time of writing, it is not clear what they have decided.

<https://confidencialhn.com/csj-admite-apelacion-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-contr-extradicion-pleno-se-estaria-reuniendo-en-las-proximas-horas/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/ningun-recurso-detendra-extradicion-de-joh-abogado-raul-pineda/>

"Congressman Ramón Barrios, president of the commission of deputies that investigates the justice operators relating extraditions, confirmed that they held a meeting with the investigation agencies of the United States. He also confirmed that the meeting was with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)."

The commission also received from the Supreme Court a list of the 32 pending extradition requests.

But according to the Minister of Security, Ramón Sabillón, there are 41 arrest warrants for people requested for extradition.

<https://confidencialhn.com/comision-del-congreso-nacional-hondureno-se-reunio-con-agentes-de-la-dea-cia-y-fbi-para-tratar-tema-de-extradiciones/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/csj-remite-al-congreso-nacional-el-listado-de-ordenes-de-capturas-pendientes-de-extraditables/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/secretaria-de-seguridad-asegura-que-existen-41-ordenes-de-captura-por-extradicion/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/23/comision-de-extradiciones-preocupados-por-inconsistencias-en-informes-de-la-csj-y-secretaria-de-seguridad/>

<https://criterio.hn/informes-de-secretaria-de-seguridad-y-corte-suprema-parecen-esconder-nombres-de-extraditables/>

"Honduras pledged Wednesday to prevent and end violence against women and girls in the country, where 318 were murdered in 2021, a phenomenon that has become "naturalized" due to machismo and patriarchy, and that requires more political will. The commitment was embodied in a public document signed in Tegucigalpa by the President of Honduras, Xiomara Castro, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the country, Alice Shackelford."

Criterio reports on the role of the media in Honduras in whitewashing hatred against women.

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-se-compromete-a-prevenir-y-ponerle-fin-a-la-violencia-contra-las-mujeres/>

<https://criterio.hn/medios-de-comunicacion-hacen-apologia-del-odio-contra-la-mujer-en-honduras/>

Defensores en Línea reports on how the Amnesty Bill could benefit the criminalized defenders, over 74, from Zacate Grande.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/amnistia-politica-favorecera-a-defensores-de-zacate-grande/>

The Secrecy Law has officially been derogated with the publication of the decision in La Gaceta.

<https://confidencialhn.com/publicada-en-el-diario-oficial-la-gaceta-derogacion-de-la-nefasta-ley-de-secretos/>

President of Congress Luis Redondo defends the spending of over 17 million Lempiras for per diems for members of Congress. He denounces that the previous Congress has hidden such spending. He also claims that the spending is high because deputy members of Congress ("suplentes") are receiving a salary now.

<https://confidencialhn.com/presidente-del-cn-justifica-aumento-en-gasto-de-viaticos-por-pago-de-diputados-suplentes/>

<https://criterio.hn/luis-redondo-se-confiesa-maniatado-para-reducir-salarios-a-diputados-y-revertir-pagos-a-suplentes/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/23/titular-del-congreso-asegura-que-gasto-de-17-millones-se-debe-a-pago-de-salarios-a-diputados-suplentes/>

"A delegation of members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. solidarity organizations met with President Xiomara Castro of Honduras this weekend. The delegation, organized by SOA Watch and WFP Solidarity Collective, included Representatives Ilhan Omar (MN-05), Jesús "Chuy" García (IL-04), Cori Bush (MO-01), as well as representation from the office of Jan Schakowsky (IL-09). President Castro is Honduras' first woman president and was inaugurated in January following historic elections in which the Honduran people turned out in massive numbers to reject the U.S.-backed regimes that have devastated Honduras since the 2009 coup d'état."

<https://soaw.org/members-of-u-s-congress-soa-watch-and-wfp-solidarity-collective-meet-with-president-xiomara-castro-of-honduras>

The Xiomara administration met with representatives of the US Treasury "to address the fight against corruption, foreign debt, foreign investment and other issues".

<https://confidencialhn.com/rescate-de-la-enee-reperfilamiento-de-deuda-corrupcion-y-transparencia-abordaron-autoridades-hondurenas-con-representantes-del-departamento-del-tesoro-de-eeuu/>

<https://criterio.hn/se-mantienen-acercamientos-enviados-especiales-del-departamento-del-tesoro-de-eeuu-llegan-a-honduras/>

In 2019, the JOH regime designated a 4 billion Lempiras plan for agricultural development under the control of the Armed Forces. The plan was widely criticized. It was meant to go on until 2025 and Criterio investigated about its current state. They find that money is still being assigned to the plan.

<https://criterio.hn/militares-si-recibieron-millonarios-fondos-para-manejar-sector-agricola-segun-portal-de-finanzas/>

Congress elected the new representatives from Libre at the Electoral Justice Tribunal and the National Electoral Council.

<https://proceso.hn/cn-elige-a-ernesto-paz-como-magistrado-del-tje-y-julio-navarro-como-consejero-del-cne/>

24/03/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; COPINH; Drug Trafficking - JOH, Extradition; Surveillance; Corruption - EU, Transparency, Mobile Hospitals, Banasupro; Agriculture; Migration; Education;

COFADEH denounced the arbitrary detention of the indigenous leader and forest defender, Ovidio Enamorado Guillén. He was detained by the police even though he was granted alternative measures to imprisonment as part of the political persecution he faces.

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-persecucion-arbitraria-contralider-indigena-que-invoco-amnistia/>

"Tomorrow, Friday, March 25, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) will hold a private working meeting to review the risk situation faced by the communities of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH), as well as the representatives of the legal team and family members of indigenous leader and human rights defender Berta Cáceres. The IACHR will also review the State of Honduras' compliance with the precautionary protection measures granted since March 2016 and subsequently extended in favor of the legal team."

<https://copinh.org/2022/03/press-release-iachr-to-review-protection-measures-granted-to-copinh-legal-team-and-family-of-berta-caceres/>

The Supreme Court has stretched out to the maximum the time to decide on JOH's extradition request. They now convened the plenary session for Monday and then they will have three days to present a verdict.

<https://confidencialhn.com/hasta-la-proxima-semana-pleno-de-la-csj-confirmara-revocara-o-reformara-decision-sobre-extradicion-de-joh/>

Congress announced that they will assure that the names of those wanted for extradition won't become public (see yesterday).

<https://confidencialhn.com/congreso-nacional-asegura-que-no-se-filtraran-nombres-de-los-extraditables/>

Liberal congressman Mario Segura will present a bill to revise the Wiretapping Law.

Congresswoman Fátima Mena spoke out in favor of revising or repealing outright the controversial law.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mario-segura-presentara-mocion-para-revisar-ley-de-escuchas/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/fatima-mena-respalda-que-se-revise-o-derogue-ley-de-escuchas-telefonicas/>

Foreign Minister Enrique Reina spoke with the EU about corruption and possible EU support for an UN-backed anti-corruption mission.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/honduras-y-la-union-europea-dialogan-sobre-migracion-y-el-combate-a-la-corrupcion-YH6797652>

In the case of the mobile hospitals, the Police Investigation Bureau (DPI) confirmed that the Guatemalan businessman Axel López is being searched by Interpol and all member countries are meant to extradite him if they arrest him. López has shown himself in the US in the recent past and Honduras criticized that he was not arrested there.

The MP stated that they are expecting an answer by the US regarding a petition for judicial assistance in the case.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/afirman-que-axel-lopez-tiene-orden-captura-en-195-paises-honduras-hospitales-moviles-interpol-KH6786783>

<https://proceso.hn/mp-espera-respuesta-de-eeuu-para-conocer-beneficiarios-con-cuentas-de-axel-lopez/>

"According to the President Commissioner of the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP) Ivonne Lizeth Ardón, heads of state institutions have stated that the authorities of the previous administration "did not leave them documentation". Regarding the case, the official emphasized that it is a crime to steal documents that belong to the State of Honduras."

<https://confidencialhn.com/titulares-de-instituciones-han-denunciado-hurto-de-documentacion-segun-la-comisionada-del-iaip/>

<https://criterio.hn/funcionarios-de-gobierno-de-joh-sustrajeron-documentos-publicos-para-esconder-la-corrupcion/>

The MP investigates possible acts of corruption at the National Supplier of Basic Goods (Banasupro).

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-investiga-supuesta-malversacion-en-banasupro/>

According to the director of the National Agrarian Institute (INA), at least 15 billion Lempiras are needed to reactivate the agricultural sector.

<https://confidencialhn.com/15-mil-millones-de-lempiras-requiere-honduras-para-reactivar-sector-agrario/>

"After the multiple complaints of migrants of different nationalities in transit through Honduras, stranded particularly in Danlí, El Paraíso, the Minister of Human Rights, Natalie Roque, confirmed that they have taken action on this issue, have confirmed the violations and filed complaints with the appropriate authorities."

<https://proceso.hn/sedh-constata-y-denuncia-violaciones-de-derechos-humanos-a-migrantes-en-transito-por-honduras/>

"The Education Commission of the National Congress, chaired by Congressman Edgardo Casaña, met with the head of the Ministry of Education, Daniel Esponda, the rector of the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH), Francisco Herrera, the rector of the National Pedagogical University (UPN), Hermes Alduvín Díaz and representatives of the teachers' unions to develop the plan for the refoundation of the Honduran educational system."

<https://confidencialhn.com/sectores-educativos-y-comision-del-cn-buscan-desarrollar-plan-de-refundacion-del-sistema-educativo-hondureno/>

25/03/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs - Protection, Guapinol; Indigenous Peoples; Drug Trafficking - JOH, Extradition; Amnesty; SPS; Transparency; Health Sector; and the Charmer Ended Up Enchanted

"The Minister of the Secretariat of Human Rights, SEDH, told pasosdeanimalgrande.com that she would be making the corresponding steps to redefine the institutional responses of the National Protection Mechanism, taking as main input the proposals of human rights defenders who have demanded effective responses from this state entity."

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/contexto/item/3349-ministra-de-la-sedh-anuncia-que-inicia-pasos-para-redefinir-respuestas-institucionales-del-mecanismo-de-proteccion>

"The arbitrary actions against the eight Guapinol defenders continue despite the fact that the Supreme Court of Justice annulled the trial. Following the decision of the Trujillo Court to deny the definitive dismissal of the environmentalists who were illegally imprisoned for 914 days, Criterio.hn contacted Kenia Oliva, a lawyer from the Justice for the Peoples law firm, to learn about the scenarios and interests behind this judicial decision." (see previous e-mails)

<https://criterio.hn/caso-contra-los-defensores-de-guapinol-podria-reactivarse/>

President Xiomara Castro met with the UN representative for indigenous peoples Calí Tzay. She reiterated her commitment to support Honduras' indigenous peoples.

<https://tiempo.hn/presidenta-xiomara-promete-ayudar-pueblos-indigenas/>

The plenary of the Supreme Court will analyze four aspects when deciding about the fate of JOH. "The president of the Judicial Power, Rolando Argueta, indicated to La Tarde de HRN that, among the aspects that will be taken into account to resolve the writ, are the grievances or damages that the defense party claims were committed against Hernández in the resolution ordering his extradition, which was issued by a natural judge. Likewise, the evaluation of the legal arguments set forth in the brief and the principles and guarantees of objectivity and independence required to issue a ruling. As a last point and in general, the plenary will discuss "the content of the appealed decision", indicated Argueta." Their ruling is expected for Monday.

<https://www.radiohrn.hn/cuatro-aspectos-discutira-csj-otorgar-extradicion-joh-revela-presidente-csj>

<https://criterio.hn/se-acerca-la-hora-cero-para-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

Now with JOH facing extradition, a debate has resurfaced in Honduras if the so-called Auto Acordado for extraditions issued by the Supreme Court in 2013 is sufficient or if a real Extradition Law is needed.

<https://proceso.hn/auto-acordado-o-ley-de-extradicion/>

According to the Human Rights Secretariat, some 100 Hondurans have so far benefited from the the Amnesty Law. "In this regard, the Minister of Human Rights, Natalie Roque, explained that the amnesties occurred in a context "where political persecution had various manifestations". She then let it be known that the charges were for usurpation, kidnapping, terrorism and aggravated arson, and would not have to do exactly with a political crime "per se" such as sedition."

<https://hondudiario.com/nacionales/secretaria-de-ddhh-ha-extendido-alrededor-de-50-constancias-de-amnistia-politica/>

"After a shooting at the legal office of the municipality of San Pedro Sula and a recent lynching attempt against him, Mayor Roberto Contreras denounced, in an interview with Criterio.hn, a crusade to attempt against his life for denouncing corruption actions of the previous administration."

<https://criterio.hn/alcalde-de-san-pedro-sula-denuncia-atentados-en-su-contraportada-por-develar-corrupcion-de-administracion-anterior/>

"The confidential item of at least five billion Lempiras assigned to the Casa Presidencial would be eliminated according to the Liberal Party (PL) congressman, Mauricio Villeda. The congressman detailed that President Xiomara Castro would be eliminating the item amounting to 5 billion Lempiras, when she sends to the National Congress the project of the reformulation of the General Budget of the Republic for 2022."

<https://confidencialhn.com/poder-ejecutivo-estaria-eliminando-partida-confidencial-de-5-mil-millones-de-lempiras/>

Health Minister Manuel Matheu emphasized how they are dependent on donations from the international cooperation for their work due to the high debt level of Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ante-deuda-de-mas-de-l-3-mil-millones-salud-opera-con-donacion-internacional-senala-ministro-de-salud/>

"In the first quarter of 2022, deportations of Hondurans exceeded the statistics of the last eight years and the transit of migrants from other nations continued to increase, complicating the already difficult situation in this Central American country, which today received nine bodies of nationals who perished on the migratory route."

According to the situation of stranded migrants in Honduras, COFADEH speaks of a crisis in need of urgent attention.

<https://criterio.hn/migracion-de-hondurenos-un-reto-total-del-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/urge-atencion-ante-crisis-migratoria-en-el-paraiso/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/np/el-encantador-termino-encantado/>

26/03/22

Honduras Daily: Mining - Azacualpa; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Public Health; Military Police; Corruption - de Lobo; Hondutel;

"OACNUDH regrets the social conflict generated today with the entry of heavy machinery into the Azacualpa cemetery hill, in La Unión, Copán, despite the existence of judicial resolutions that order to stop exhumations in the cemetery, ensuring its integrity."

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1507917377975029764>

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1507906260225736707>

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-que-minosa-ingresa-maquinaria-a-cementerio-de-azacualpa-con-apoyo-de-la-policia/>

BBC interviewed the former first lady Ana García de Hernández about her quest to defend JOH's image before the world...it is a very long interview with not a lot of context regarding the suffering of the Honduran people these last 12 years.

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-60875897>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/ana-garcia-bbc-tememos-nuestra-vida-pero-no-acusaciones-extradicion-joh-LM6842904>

Hospitalization rates are currently at a all time low since the start of the pandemic 2 years ago at 8%.

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-reporta-su-nivel-mas-bajo-de-hospitalizacion-durante-la-pandemia/>

El Heraldito reports how the number of active members of the Armed Forces was boosted by the creation of the Military Police. Between 2000 and 2011 only some 300 people joined the Armed Forces every year, in 2014, the number reached 6000.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/creacion-pmop-disparo-ingresos-ffaa-honduras-XB6838707>

CESPAD outlines the legal reasoning of the courts to find the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo also guilty in her re-trial (see last week).

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/03/25/que-valor-el-tribunal-para-declarar-culpable-por-segunda-vez-a-ex-primera-dama-de-honduras/>

The labor union at Hondutel asked president Xiomara for support in resolving the crisis at the state institution.

<https://tiempo.hn/sindicato-hondutel-pide-xiomara-solucionar-crisis/>

27/03/22

Honduras Daily: Mining - Azacualpa; Drug Trafficking - JOH; US;

The situation in Azacualpa, Copán, has heated up again with the mining company MINOSA using explosives on the mountain where the indigenous Maya Chortí cemetery lies.

After OACNUDH (see yesterday), the Human Rights Secretariat also expressed concern about the situation highlighting human rights violations committed "in the context of the mining activity" and demanding a stop to the hostility as well as the compliance of a court ruling which demanded a stop to the exhumation of the cemetery.

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1508227564694876163>

<https://proceso.hn/sedh-denuncia-violaciones-de-ddhh-en-una-mina-en-la-union-copan/>

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1508168116404117508>

https://twitter.com/MIAMBIENTE_HN/status/1508213762918072324

In a long article, El Libertador presents the Supreme Court judges who will decide about JOH's fate calling them "human rights violators, bureaucrats, political activists and even "childhood friends" of the former president and now wanted for extradition Juan Hernández".

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/27/especial-1-2-conozca-los-magistrados-de-la-justicia/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/03/27/especial-2-2-una-corte-cocinada-al-exigente-gusto-de-joh/>

US congressman Chuy García tweeted about his recent Honduras visit. "It was uplifting to hear @XiomaraCastroZ commitment to uproot corruption and defend human rights. But for her administration to succeed, the U.S. must break from our history of human rights violations in the region that has driven internal displacement and migration for decades. I return home with a renewed determination to defend democratic governments like President Castro's throughout the Americas and work to protect oppressed communities in Honduras and worldwide. I was glad to join @RepCori and @Ilhan for this important visit to Central America."

<https://twitter.com/RepChuyGarcia/status/1507060544381063174>

28/03/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH; Mining - Azacualpa; Berta - Trial, COPINH; LGBTIQ+; Corruption - JOH, de Lobo; and Happy Birthday COPINH

The Plenary of the Supreme Court rejected the appeal by JOH's legal team. The last legal resource for JOH has vanished and his extradition is imminent.

"The decision by the court ends a six-week saga that began with the arrest of Hernández on February 15, as well as years of speculation over whether the once untouchable former president would be forced to face the accusations in a U.S. federal court. (...) Upon arriving in the United States, the former president will be presented before the same court in the Southern District of New York where his brother was convicted. If convicted by a jury, Hernández, 53, would face a mandatory-minimum sentence of 40 years in prison."

Just hours before the decision, JOH wrote a letter to the public which some see as a farewell letter.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/pleno-csj-ratifica-extradicion-juan-orlando-hernandez-XI6875635>

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/latin-america/juan-orlando-hernandez-appeal-extradition-loses>

<https://criterio.hn/extradicion-de-joh-un-ejemplo-y-advertencia-para-la-clase-politica/>

<https://criterio.hn/en-carta-juan-orlando-hernandez-presagia-su-condena-a-perpetuidad-por-narcotrafico/>

The mining company MINOSA is threatening human rights lawyers accompanying the Azacualpa community in defense of their cemetery. They told them not to go there otherwise they would be attacked.

The human rights law firm Estudios para la Dignidad denounces that the use of explosive continues on the cemetery hill and demands concrete actions to stop this by the State of Honduras.

<https://twitter.com/VictorFerG/status/1508506399181000707>

<https://twitter.com/bufetedignidad/status/1508484130136367111>

In the David Castillo trial, the hearing to resolve his petition to have the amnesty law applied to his case was rescheduled again and now should take place this Thursday.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1508594331636142087>

"Last Thursday afternoon, March 24, on the program "Doble Vía" broadcast on the Radio América network, directed by journalist Rodolfo Colindres, evangelical pastor Roy Santos was a guest on the program; he referred in a derogatory, discriminatory and racist manner to the indigenous peoples of Honduras and specifically to COPINH."

<https://copinh.org/2022/03/press-release-copinh-denounces-racist-statements-by-pastor-roy-santos-towards-the-indigenous-peoples-of-honduras/>

"The LGTBIQ community in Honduras demanded on Monday the approval of a gender identity law and compliance with a ruling issued in 2021 by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (CorteIDH), in which it condemned the State for the death of a transgender woman and activist."

<https://proceso.hn/comunidad-lgtbiq-en-honduras-pide-aprobar-una-ley-de-identidad-de-genero/>

The MP is investigating 12 NGOs which received money from the JOH regime and are thought to have been used to benefit politicians and financed their campaigns.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/mp-investiga-ejecucion-de-proyectos-gubernamentales-con-12-ongs/>

The MP demands a 16-year prison sentence for the former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/28/fiscalia-de-honduras-pide-16-anos-de-prision-para-exprimera-dama-por-corrupcion/>

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1508572812671393798>

29/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; LGBTIQ+; Extractivism - HRDs, Los Prados; HRDs; JOH - Extradition, Corruption; Organized Crime; Water; and the First Two Months

The sentencing of David Castillo was once again postponed, this time from April 4 to May 18.

"On Friday, March 25, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) held a working meeting to review the risk situation faced by the communities of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH), representatives of the legal team, and family members of indigenous leader and human rights defender Berta Cáceres. At the meeting, the status of compliance with the protection measures granted to these people since March 2016 was presented. During the space, the beneficiaries, together with the Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH), the Broad Movement for Dignity and Justice (MADJ) and the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL), denounced that 6 years after the assassination of Berta Cáceres, the State of Honduras has not taken the necessary actions to address the problems that gave rise to the risk in the Lenca communities and that continue to endanger the life and integrity of those who defend rights, as Berta Cáceres did."

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1508879578751803393>

<https://criterio.hn/aplazan-nuevamente-lectura-de-sentencia-contradavid-castillo-por-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

<https://copinh.org/2022/03/a-6-anos-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres-el-riesgo-permanece-para-su-familia-el-copinh-y-el-equipo-legal-de-su-causa/>

"An armed man riding a motorcycle threatened lawyer Roger Mariano Silva Carbajal, of the LGTBI organization SOMOS-CDC, with a gun in his hand and took a computer with information from him, according to a public document denounced by the above mentioned institution on March 29, 2022."

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/denuncias/item/3350-desconocido-con-arma-de-fuego-despoja-de-computadora-a-integrante-de-la-organizacion-lgtbi-somos-cdc>

"Víctor Fernández, a lawyer with the human rights law firm Estudios para la Dignidad, told Criterio.hn that as a defender and fighter, given the ambivalence of the new government on issues of land and environmental defense, he feels more exposed to attacks. (...) The hullabaloo following the declaration of a Honduras free of open-pit mining dissipated, leaving behind a duality of discourse that only gives the impression of change without changing anything. There is no clearer example of this reality than the case of the Azacualpa cemetery in La Unión, Copán, in western Honduras. Despite two firm sentences to stop the exhumations, the company Minerales de Occidente S.A. de C.V. (Minosa), a subsidiary of the transnational company Aura Minerals, has continued with the destruction of the cemetery."

<https://criterio.hn/doble-discurso-de-nuevo-gobierno-eleva-riesgo-a-defensores-del-territorio-y-ambiente-en-honduras/>

The Network of Women Human Rights Defense Lawyers published a video summary of the environmental impact of a solar energy project in Los Prados, Choluteca.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U79rVZj5mps>

<https://reddeabogadas.hn/causa-prados/>

The Association for Participative Citizenship (ACI Participa) presented its annual report on the situation of human rights defenders. The report documented 11 assassinations of defenders in 2021.

<https://proceso.hn/socializan-en-honduras-informe-sobre-situacion-de-defensores-de-ddhh/>

<https://proceso.hn/once-defensores-de-ddhh-fueron-asesinados-en-honduras-en-2021-segun-informe/>

JOH's legal team presented another legal challenge but according to legal experts they have already used up all resources and the appeal is inadmissible.

Radio Progreso published an article highlighting the collaboration between organized crime and the Honduran judicial system under the JOH regime.

<https://criterio.hn/defensa-de-joh-alega-violacion-a-derechos-humanos-en-recurso-de-amparo-presentado-ante-la-corte-suprema/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/defensa-de-expresidente-hernandez-presenta-recurso-de-amparo-en-la-csj/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/extradicion-de-joh-demuestra-colaboracion-de-la-justicia-hondurena-con-crimen-organizado/>

The National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) denounced that JOH's wife Ana García transferred some 60 million Lempiras in the name of JOH seven days ago, in the midst of his extradition trial. The CNA wonders why the MP did not act as it could have seized JOH's possessions as they may be linked to drug trafficking.

Luis Redondo, president of Congress, tweeted: "I warn the banking institutions that are moving properties of drug trafficker Juan Orlando Hernandez, they incur in several crimes."

FOSDEH warns that the involved banks could incur sanctions from the US.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ana-garcia-traslado-60-millones-de-lempiras-en-concepto-de-pago-a-un-banco-hondureno-hace-siete-dias-revela-cna/>

<https://criterio.hn/ana-traslado-bienes-de-joh-en-34-minutos-a-un-banco/>

<https://criterio.hn/ministerio-publico-continua-sin-asegurar-bienes-de-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/ramon-sabillon-dice-que-no-incautan-bienes-de-joh-para-no-afectar-operatividad-XL6951660>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ocultar-movimientos-de-un-narcotraficante-incurre-en-varios-delitos-advierte-luis-redondo-a-instituciones-bancarias/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/transaccion-realizada-por-esposa-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-y-denunciada-por-el-cna-es-atipica-senala-economista/>

In an interview with Expediente Público, the new head of the National Police Force, commissioner Gustavo Sánchez, warns that organized crime is trying to undermine the new government. He also comments on the failed deputation process, the remilitarization of security forces and more.

<https://www.expedientepublico.org/exclusiva-nuevo-director-de-la-policia-hondurena-alerta-que-el-crimen-organizado-intenta-hacer-fracasal-gobierno/>

Inhabitants of a neighborhood in Comayagüela protested the lack of access to drinking water.

Civil society organizations call on the Xiomara Castro administration to ask Congress to repeal the Drinking Water and Sanitation Sector Framework Law which promotes privatization efforts.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ante-la-falta-de-agua-potable-pobladores-de-el-pedregal-protestan-y-se-toman-la-calle-principal/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/organizaciones-defensoras-del-medio-ambiente-se-pronuncian-en-contra-de-la-privatizacion-del-agua/>

<https://criterio.hn/exigen-derogar-fideicomiso-que-concede-a-banco-ficohsa-privatizacion-del-agua-potable/>

"After two difficult and agitated months, the Convergence Against Continuism assumes the responsibility of pronouncing its autonomous and critical word. We continue to place our trust in the current government. (...) We positively recognize the decisions that have been taken in the process of repealing laws and decrees that supported the dictatorship (...) We are concerned that after two months, it has not been possible to establish a fluid communication between the different State agencies and the citizenry, leaving a feeling of lack of information and chaos in the decisions that are being taken. (...) We are concerned about the clientelistic environment that permeates the various State agencies, both at the central level as well as in the departments and municipalities. (...) We recognize the efforts to attack the criminal structures on which the dictatorship was based. (...)

We recognize the government's openness to fostering relations with the international community, but we are concerned about the signs of an absorbing presence on the part of the United States government (...) In the weeks of transition after the electoral triumph, there was a euphoria of calls and dialogues that anticipated closeness and listening on the part of the new government. Two months later, the closeness and listening have turned into distance and inconsistent and arbitrary decisions. (...) To resume this closeness, dialogue and listening to different sectors of society, and to make important decisions based on this listening and not only based on partisan interests or according to activists' demands, is a necessity if the government really wants to continue to be a reference of hope. We need more presence and words from President Xiomara Castro, as head of the Executive, and less presence and words from delegates and advisors who in fact establish a cold wall between the citizenry and a president who represents trust, harmony and consensus among the vast majority of Honduran society."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/posicionamiento-de-ccc-a-dos-meses-de-gobierno/>

30/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Extractivism - Azacualpa; JOH - Properties; Police; Security Tax; Labor Rights; Health Sector - JOH; Migration; Agriculture; Poverty; Teachers;

Today, a court will decide if the Amnesty Law can be applied to the case of David Castillo, found guilty as the co-perpetrator of the murder of Berta Cáceres.

<https://im-defensoras.org/2022/03/alerta-urgente-honduras-david-castillo-coautor-del-asesinato-de-berta-caceres-busca-quedar-impune-mediante-decreto-de-amnistia/>

The State of Honduras has ordered the mining company MINOSA to stop its operations on the cemetery hill in Azacualpa (see also previous days).

<https://twitter.com/bufetedignidad/status/1509175310004195330>

The MP requested the seizure of JOH's properties (see also yesterday).

Criterio has more on how Ana García, JOH's wife, was able to transfer some 60 million Lempiras in just 30min (see yesterday). They had a deal with FICOHSA.

<https://criterio.hn/ministerio-publico-pide-asegurar-bienes-de-joh-tras-acciones-atipicas-de-su-esposa/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/ministerio-publico-pide-aseguramiento-de-bienes-expresidente-hernandez-DC6994216>

<https://criterio.hn/convenios-con-bancos-permitio-a-ana-garcia-trasladar-en-tiempo-record-bienes-de-joh-bajo-dacion/>

Expediente Público published part 2 of the interview with the head of the National Police Force, commissioner Gustavo Sánchez Velásquez (see yesterday).

<https://www.expedientepublico.org/director-de-la-policia-de-honduras-investigacion-captura-y-castigo-a-policias-corruptos-y-enfoque-comunitario/>

"The International Domestic Workers' Day, instead of being a celebration, in Honduras it is another day of arduous struggle. This work performed by women and girls demands recognition of their rights, respect for their work, a stop to the sexual and labor abuse they suffer, and the ratification of the international agreement that supports them."

OACNUDH agrees and urges the authorities to expedite the approval of the Domestic Work Law and the ratification of the ILO Convention 189.

<https://criterio.hn/trabajadoras-domesticas-exigen-respeto-y-respaldo-a-sus-derechos-con-ratificacion-del-convenio-con-oit/>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1509302295841984519>

According to Libre congressman Rafael Sarmiento, the funds of the controversial security tax (tasa de seguridad) are committed for the next seven years. At the same time, thanks to the repeal of the secrecy law, he hopes that Congress will have more clarity on what the money is being spent.

There was a meeting recently between a congressional committee with the Minister of Security Ramón Sabillón and the head of the police on the Security Tax as well as the future of FUSINA.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fondos-de-la-tasa-de-seguridad-estan-comprometidos-por-los-proximos-siete-anos/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/30/el-parlamento-analizara-el-futuro-de-fusina-y-la-tasa-de-seguridad/>

"After the meeting with the Secretary of Health, José Manuel Matheu, several agreements were reached and we return to work, announced the president of the Association of Auxiliary Nurses of Honduras (Aneeah), Josué Orellana."

"The questioned nationalist government of Juan Orlando Hernández, in a clear demonstration that it was a lover of neoliberalism and the alienation of public assets, dedicated its eight years in office to dismantling the national health system, to the point of handing over public hospitals to NGOs. During this period, according to documents gathered by El Pulso and which coincide with reports prepared by the Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Medicina, Hospitales y Similares (Sitramedhys) that the Ministry of Health, headed at the time by Alba Consuelo Flores, Octavio Sánchez and others, disengaged from the hospital network and handed it over to several NGOs, better known as managers, so as not to deal with the basic needs they usually suffer from."

<https://confidencialhn.com/tras-lograr-acuerdo-con-autoridades-personal-sanitario-regresa-a-sus-labores/>

<https://proceso.hn/nos-incorporamos-a-nuestras-labores-anuncia-presidente-de-aneeh/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/03/30/gobierno-de-joh-privatizo-hospitales-de-honduras-al-entregarlos-a-oeneges/>

Honduras considers declaring a state of humanitarian emergency due to the stranded migrants in the south of Honduras.

Human rights defender Itsmania Platero demands immediate actions by the State.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ministra-de-ddhh-senala-que-no-se-descarta-declarar-emergencia-humanitaria-ante-alto-flujo-de-migrantes-varados-en-zona-oriental-del-pais/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/senalan-que-no-se-puede-esperar-aprobacion-de-un-decreto-para-atender-problematika-migratoria-en-honduras/>

Another sector facing an emergency is agriculture. "An emergency must be declared in the agricultural sector due to the drought, lack of credits and high costs of inputs, said Wednesday the head of the Liberal Bancada, Mario Segura. "We do not know if there are special financing available, those that existed in Banhprovi through trusts that were obtained with the world bank, with very low interest rates and placed in the national bank", Segura expressed to journalists."

<https://confidencialhn.com/analizan-declarar-emergencia-en-sector-agricola-ante-panorama-desolador-por-la-sequia-falta-de-creditos-y-altos-costos/>

Already now, 2.4 million Honduras are living in a state of food crisis according to the UN World Food Program.

<https://confidencialhn.com/unos-2-4-millones-de-hondurenos-en-crisis-alimentaria-por-covid-19-y-huracanes/>

ConfidencialHN reports that more than 14'000 teachers retired teachers are demanding from the authorities of the National Teacher Welfare Institute (Inprema), the payment of 60 salaries.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mas-de-14-mil-maestros-jubilados-exigen-al-inprema-el-pago-de-60-salarios/>

31/03/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; JOH - Extradition; ZEDEs; Political Prisoners; Organized Crime - Moskitia; Corruption - OABI; Social Rights; Migration; and Woman Making Herstory

Yesterday, the hearing in the case of David Castillo took place; the judges have to decide if the Amnesty Law can be applied to his case. The resolution is expected today at 10.30am.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1509597387211255809>

JOH has already lawyered up in the US, among his legal team are two former public prosecutors from New York and Florida.

In Honduras, the Supreme Court will decide if JOH's possessions will be seized.

Criterio continues to report on the financial transactions of Ana García, JOH's wife, in the recent days.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/dos-exfiscales-eeuu-figuran-entre-defensores-juan-orlando-hernandez-IE7024794>

<https://tiempo.hn/incautacion-de-bienes-a-joh-honduras-csj/>

<https://criterio.hn/cuales-seran-los-bienes-que-le-incautaran-a-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/ana-entregara-en-un-ano-al-banco-su-lujosa-casa-de-tegucigalpa/>

Criterio reports on a charm offensive by the Próspera ZEDE in Roatán.

<https://criterio.hn/zede-prospera-roatan-se-disfraz-a-para-ganarse-la-simpatia-de-los-pobladores/>

Another political prisoner from the JOH-era, Jhony Andrés Salgado, had the charges dropped against him.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/sobreseimiento-definitivo-para-jhony-salgado-victima-de-la-crisis-post-electoral/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/victima-del-regimen-de-joh-logra-extincion-de-la-pena/>

With the tense situation in El Salvador, a state of exception and substantial increases in prison sentences for belonging to a gang, Honduras fears a possible inflow of gang members.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/honduras-activa-protocolos-evitar-ola-pandilleros-salvadorenos-BE7024021>

The possible destruction of a highway in La Moskitia, labeled as a drug corridor, caused a division between local indigenous communities. "The indigenous leader, Modesto Morales, in conversation with Proceso Digital warned that they will not allow the destruction of the road and that if possible they will file a lawsuit. "We are not going to allow them to destroy the road, before that the government has to guarantee a good hospital to the Misquitos, that road that was built to connect with Olancho is indispensable," he said."

<https://proceso.hn/division-entre-pueblos-indigenas-por-anuncio-de-destruir-narcocarretera/>

A recent operation brought to light corruption under the JOH regime at the Administrative Office of Seized Goods (OABI).

<https://confidencialhn.com/ministerio-publico-acusa-a-exdirector-de-la-oabi-por-cuatro-delitos-en-operacion-nemesis-iii/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/21-expedientes-de-venta-directa-encontramos-en-la-oabi-ordenadas-por-juan-orlando-hernandez-senala-nuevo-director/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/juzgado-de-privacion-de-dominio-de-bienes-de-origen-ilicito-recibio-solicitud-en-relacion-a-los-bienes-de-joh/>

Congress is discussing a ten-day work break for new fathers.

<https://confidencialhn.com/expresan-que-ley-de-descanso-post-natal-para-hombres-pretende-educar-sobre-la-responsabilidad-cuidado-y-proteccion-de-los-hijos/>

According to COIPRODEN, the number of stranded migrants in the south of Honduras has reached 8000.

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/alrededor-de-8-mil-migrantes-esperan-zona-oriente-de-honduras/>

<https://twitter.com/XiomaraCastroZ/status/1509657630926467092>