

01/06/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Garífunas; Police; Femicides; Corruption - UN, Palmerola; Amnesty; Extradition; Libre; and Who is Afraid of UFERCO

"The peasant leader, Marco Tulio Paredes Molina (44), president of the Veintiuno de Julio Peasant Cooperative, was shot dead in the community of Marañones, jurisdiction of Trujillo, Colón. The crime was committed last Friday, May 27, by heavily armed individuals who came to take his life in his home, located on the left bank of that community."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1500-asesinan-a-destacado-dirigente-campesino-del-aguan>

Miriam Miranda denounces the following: "The ICF, with the financial support of the German Cooperation, intends to carry out today a supposed "consultation" on the management of protected areas in the community of Triunfo de la Cruz, Tela; they are unaware that there is a judgment of the Inter-American Court and that it must be complied with!"

<https://twitter.com/baraudawaguchu/status/1531998538841849863>

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1532138485175427078>

The killing of 21-year old football fan Wilson Ariel Pérez Hernández has caused outrage (see yesterday). During a football game, he physically attacked a female police agent. The next day, he was found shot in the back several times. The police first claimed this took place during a confrontation, but this seemed to have been a lie and the outright murdered him.

According to his family, the police also attacked the, beating his brother and mother.

DPI, ATIC and Didadpol will investigate the case. But DPI agents were accused by the family to have hit them...

<https://criterio.hn/policia-de-honduras-en-la-mira-tras-muerte-violenta-de-joven-que-agredio-a-una-agente-policial/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/familia-de-wilson-perez-aseguran-que-no-hubo-ningun-enfrentamiento-con-policias/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/deportes/contradicciones-versiones-policia-familia-derechos-humanos-muerte-agresor-sub-inspectora-estadio-olimpico-asesinado-enfrentamiento-BB8443553>

<https://proceso.hn/presunto-abuso-policial-enciende-alarmas-en-materia-de-seguridad-ciudadana/>

<https://tiempo.hn/familia-de-wilson-ariel-perez-barrista-pateo-a-policia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/dpi-atic-y-didadpol-investigacion-muerte-de-agresor-de-subinspectora-director-de-la-policia-nacional-gustavo-sanchez/>

According to the Center for Women's Rights (CDM), 110 women violently lost their lives in the first four months of 2022.

<https://www.radiohrn.hn/honduras-registra-asesinato-110-mujeres-meses-2020>

<https://proceso.hn/ong-denuncia-el-asesinato-de-110-mujeres-en-honduras-entre-enero-y-abril/>

According to the Secretary of the National Congress, Carlos Zelaya, the UN-backed anti-corruption mission will be installed in September. This is the first time I heard about that date.

<https://confidencialhn.com/a-partir-de-septiembre-se-instalara-la-cicoh-en-honduras-segun-diputado-carlos-zelaya/>

Expediente Público has more on the investigation into the Palmerola airport contracts.

<https://www.expedientepublico.org/el-congreso-investiga-si-el-contrato-de-palmerola-es-lesivo-para-los-hondurenos/>

The PSH has presented a bill to reform the controversial Amnesty Law.

The same day, it was made public that another former public employee under the Zelaya government benefited from the Amnesty Law. This week, several indigenous campesino defenders also benefited from the law (see yesterday).

Criterio has an overview of the controversy around the bill.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ligia-ramos-diputada-del-psh-confirma-que-ya-presentaron-la-iniciativa-para-reformar-la-ley-de-amnista-politica/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/otorgan-carta-de-libertad-por-tres-delitos-a-otro-exfuncionario-del-poder-ciudadano/>

<https://criterio.hn/los-tres-poderes-del-estado-confabulados-para-darle-vida-y-tramite-a-cuestionada-amnistia/>

According to Supreme Court president Rolando Argueta, a new extradition order is on its way.

<https://confidencialhn.com/presidente-de-la-csj-confirma-que-en-las-proximas-horas-recibiran-una-nueva-orden-de-extradicion/>

Libre congresswoman Beatriz Valle claims that she has been expelled from Libre while Libre claims that this is not true.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/01/fui-expulsada-definitivamente-de-libre-anuncia-diputada-beatriz-valle/>

<https://criterio.hn/redes-de-corrupcion-preocupadas-por-fortalecimiento-de-la-uferco/>

02/06/22

Honduras Daily: Berta; COPINH; Amnesty; HRDs; Corruption - UN, Copeco; Supreme Court; Transparency; EU; Police; and Rescuing the Energy Sector

"Members of the Expert Observation Mission in the Berta Cáceres Case express their deep concern about the delay of justice in the case of the renowned Lenca leader Berta Cáceres in Honduras. A ruling declaring the criminal responsibility of Roberto David Castillo Mejia as co-perpetrator of the murder was issued on July 5, but the First Chamber of the Sentencing Court has not yet issued the sentence, further delaying the rights of the victims - including her family, the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH) and Honduran society - to truth, justice and reparation."

Meanwhile in Valencia, a garden has been inaugurated in honor of Berta.

<https://www.observacionbertacaceres.org/post/failure-to-issue-sentence-in-berta-c%C3%A1ceres-case-denies-access-to-justice-for-victims>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1532464301310623744>

COPINH held its 13th general assembly this week. In a statement, they highlighted that although there is a moment of change for Honduras, represented by the new government, (...) the possibilities of this happening "are limited by the economic and political structures represented by the banking system, security structures, organized crime and institutions that perpetrate the dispossession of rights".

<https://criterio.hn/estructuras-economicas-y-politicas-limitan-posibilidades-de-cambio-en-honduras-copinh/>

13 UNAH students criminalized since 2017 had their charges dropped thanks to the Amnesty Law.

<https://tiempo.hn/13-estudiantes-de-la-unah-con-la-amnistia-politica/>

<https://criterio.hn/trece-universitarios-quedan-en-libertad-con-amnistia-6-continuan-siendo-criminalizados-por-la-unah/>

"The human rights defender, Margarita Pineda, denounced a series of threats against her for the work she does in defense of the territory and the commons of the municipality of San José, department of La Paz. She was the general coordinator and secretary of minutes of the Independent Lenca Indigenous Movement of La Paz-Honduras (MILPAH) and currently leads the area of indigenous women of that organization, which since early 2011 has been fighting the battle to defend the community heritage, which is threatened by the hydroelectric company, Aurora I, which is owned by the nationalist deputy and former vice president of the National Congress, Gladis Aurora Lopez."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/alertas/amenazas/1501-te-mandaremos-a-quitar-del-camino-asi-amenazan-a-defensora-de-los-ddhh-en-san-jose-la-paz>

As expected, the UN clarified that no decision has been made so far regarding the installation of a UN-backed anti-corruption mission (see yesterday).

Some use the normal consideration period to create uncertainty about the legality of the current congressional leadership going back to the time of two Congress' at the beginning of Xiomara's presidency.

<https://honduras.un.org/es/184572-nota-aclaratoria-sobre-la-instalacion-de-la-comision-internacional-contr-la-corrupcion-e>

<https://tiempo.hn/situacion-juridica-del-cn-problemas-instalacion-ciclh/>

The MP pressed charges against the former head of COPECO under JOH, Gabriel Alfredo Rubí Paredes.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mp-presenta-requerimiento-fiscal-con-orden-de-captura-contr-exministro-de-copeco-y-4-funcionarios-mas/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/06/02/rubi-se-entrega-a-justicia-tras-operativo-en-su-vivienda/>

"The representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Honduras (OHCHR), Isabel Albaladejo, said that with the election of the new Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) Honduras has the opportunity to strengthen its rule of law."

One of the challenges is the setup of the nomination committee.

<https://confidencialhn.com/con-eleccion-de-la-nueva-csj-honduras-tiene-la-oportunidad-de-fortalecer-su-estado-de-derecho-oacnudh/>

<https://criterio.hn/reparticion-de-magistrados-dilema-para-tener-una-efectiva-corte-suprema-de-justicia/>

"Six out of 24 Secretaries of State, that is, 25% did not submit their sworn statements to the Superior Court of Accounts (TSC) for the period 2022. In the case of the proprietary deputies, 12% did not comply with said obligation and 10% of the substitutes had the same behavior."

<https://criterio.hn/seis-secretarios-de-estado-y-29-diputados-no-presentaron-las-declaraciones-juradas-ante-el-tsc/>

"The European Union and Central America have resumed their political dialogue and are analyzing the status of the Association Agreement between the two regions, which has been in force for almost a decade, with a view to improving it and moving towards more sustainable development."

<https://proceso.hn/ue-y-centroamerica-analizan-acuerdo-de-asociacion-para-impulsar-desarrollo/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/union-europea-y-centroamerica-analizan-acuerdo-de-asociacion-para-impulsar-desarrollo/>

The corresponding commission has received 1100 requests for reintegration of purged members of the police force.

<https://confidencialhn.com/policia-nacional-iniciara-el-proceso-de-readiestramiento-de-agentes-depurados-que-seran-reintegrados/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/02/mediante-ley-especial-de-energia-prometen-reestructurar-la-enee-y-brindar-energia-electrica-a-toda-la-poblacion/>

03/06/22

Honduras Daily: Police; Armed Forces; Poverty; Corruption - UN, Invest-H, COPECO; National Party; Libre; EU; World Bank; Migration - Children; and Cell Buddies

The police suspended the agents who had participated in the "confrontation in which Real España fan Wilson Ariel Pérez Hernández died" (see previous days).

<https://confidencialhn.com/suspenden-a-funcionarios-policiales-que-participaron-en-el-operativo-de-captura-en-el-cual-fallecio-wilson-ariel-perez/>

<https://criterio.hn/fuertes-contradicciones-en-muerte-violenta-de-joven-barrista-en-zona-norte-de-honduras/>

"The Center for Democracy Studies, CESPAD, in the document "After four months of the new administration", denounced that the government of Xiomara Castro Sarmiento still maintains a high military expenditure in the national budget. In this sense, Gustavo Irías, director of CESPAD, detailed that the budget assigned to the military sector is 9 billion Lempiras, in spite of the restructuring approved in the National Congress."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-mantiene-alto-gasto-militar/>

"The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) predicted that food insecurity could worsen in Honduras between July and August. The collateral effects of the war between Russia and Ukraine directly affect the price of fertilizers and fuel, so small Honduran producers face a hopeless reality. Government programs for farmers do not reach them, while the consumer pays for an increasingly expensive basic food basket."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/03/crisis-alimentaria-en-honduras-impacta-a-pequenos-productores-y-aumenta-precio-de-canasta-basica/>

El Tiempo reports on possible requirements for the installation of a UN-backed anti-corruption mission in Honduras.

<https://tiempo.hn/recomendaciones-a-cumplir-para-que-venga-la-cicih/>

"A new act of corruption was uncovered this Friday by the Public Prosecutor's Office (MP) against seven former employees of Inversión Estratégica de Honduras (Invest-H) for the millionaire irregular purchase of 474 thousand masks during the COVID-19 pandemic."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/ministerio-publico-destapa-nuevo-caso-corrupcion-por-millonaria-compra-mascarilla-durante-pandemia-covid-19-YL8481724>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/mp-presenta-nuevo-caso-por-corrupcion-durante-la-pandemia/>

Former COPECO director Gabriel Rubí can await his corruption trial in freedom (see last days).

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/gabriel-rubi-y-compania-se-defenderan-en-libertad/>

The National Party expelled congressman Rolando Barahona for 8 years. His crime? Voting with the government.

<https://proceso.hn/diputado-rolando-barahona-expulsado-por-8-anos-del-pn/>

<https://tiempo.hn/partido-nacional-expulsa-diputado-rolando-barahona/>

Libre also has some renewed internal struggles with a minority faction questioning the congressional leadership.

<https://criterio.hn/renace-faccion-de-diputados-insurgentes-de-libre-que-mantiene-postura-contra-presidente-del-legislativo/>

"The issues of climate change, decent employment and rule of law and democracy appear as priorities in the cooperation agenda of the European Union (EU) with Honduras, said Friday in an interview with Efe the European ambassador in Tegucigalpa, Jaume Segura."

<https://proceso.hn/cambio-climatico-y-empleo-prioridades-de-cooperacion-de-ue-con-honduras/>

"The Government will not use in its entirety the 800 million dollars made available by the World Bank for Honduras, confirmed the Minister of the Presidency Rodolfo Pastor de María y Campos. (...) However, in Honduras there is a regulation which indicates that it is not allowed to get into debt for more than 350 million dollars a year, "so there is a limit as to the loans we can receive, this limit prevents us from accessing the total funds", said the official."

<https://confidencialhn.com/solo-350-millones-podra-utilizar-el-gobierno-del-total-dispuesto-por-el-bm-para-honduras/>

"The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) inaugurated this Friday its new office in Choluteca, in the southern region of Honduras, to strengthen access to immigrants arriving in that region of the Central American country, with the intention of continuing on their way to the United States."

<https://confidencialhn.com/acnur-inaugura-oficina-en-el-sur-de-honduras-para-apoyar-a-los-inmigrantes/>

Criterio reports on children fleeing Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/ninez-migrante-no-ve-un-futuro-alentador-en-honduras/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/juan-orlando-hernandez-unidad-cantante-r-kelly-nueva-york-brooklyn-honduras-carcel-hondureno-BM8482542>

04/06/22

Honduras Daily: HR-Situation; Drug Trafficking; Fuel Prices; and the US and Latin American Democracy

The Honduras Forum Switzerland published the Mai 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/?smd_process_download=1&download_id=46102

The MP had 79 goods and properties seized belonging to JOH's brother Juan Antonio "Tony" Hernández Alvarado and the deceased Wilkin Montalván linked to Juan Ramón Matta Waldurraga.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/operacion-eslabon-mp-asegura-79-bienes-a-estructura-del-extinto-wilkin-montalvan-ligada-a-juan-ramon-matta-waldurraga-y-juan-antonio-hernandez-alvarado/>

<https://criterio.hn/mp-asegura-79-bienes-de-wilkin-montalvan-ligado-a-ramon-matta-waldurraga-y-tony-hernandez/>

"The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE) announced that it has approved indicative financing of up to US\$800 million to finance a temporary support program in the region in response to rising world fuel prices."

<https://confidencialhn.com/bcie-aprueba-financiacion-de-800-millones-de-dolares-para-afrontar-impacto-de-combustibles-en-la-region/>

<https://criterio.hn/ee-uu-y-la-democracia-en-america-latina-historia-corta-de-una-relacion-centenaria-y-consistente/>

<https://www.radiohrn.hn/honduras-si-acudira-a-cumbre-de-las-americas-pero-representada-por-su-canciller>

05/06/22

Honduras Daily: JOH - Trial; Amnesty; Congress; Migration – US;

David C. Adams and Jeff Ernst have a great piece on JOH's peculiar legal team including rabbis and a YouTube detective.

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/latin-america/legal-team-defense-honduras-extradited-president-hernandez>

The proposed reforms to the Amnesty Law seems no less controversial than the initial law because it opens up the possibility for monetary compensation. The stated aim of the reform is to have a clear definition of political crimes and political persecution. "On his side, lawyer Edy Tábor, who is also a human rights defender, said that the spirit of the amnesty is based on a constitutional mechanism to put an end to many processes used to criminalize people who fought for democracy. However, he pointed out that the decree has two axes: the first one has not been objected because it solves the criminal situation of social fighters, but there is another axis that includes crimes related to public administration. Tábor recommended the judges to verify if the crimes of the amnesty applicants are contemplated in the political facts."

<https://proceso.hn/reforma-a-la-amnistia-una-ventana-para-millonarias-indemnizaciones/>

There is talk of the creation of an independent bench inside Congress.

<https://confidencialhn.com/anuncian-la-creacion-de-una-bancada-independiente-dentro-del-congreso-nacional/>

<https://proceso.hn/lo-que-me-interesa-son-sus-votos-en-el-congreso-dice-redondo-sobre-disidentes-de-libre/>

A protest march in Washington announced for today will call for a new temporary protection status for Hondurans affected by the hurricanes Eta and Iota.

<https://proceso.hn/hondurenos-vuelven-a-las-calles-de-washington-para-pedir-un-nuevo-tps/>

06/06/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Summit; Judicial Power - JOH; ZEDEs; Extractivism; Education - US; Corruption – JOH;

The law firm Estudios para la Dignidad represented 17 peasant defenders before court yesterday. They all belong to the cooperative Los Laureles.

"The victories won this day at the hearing: - The compañeros and compañeras will continue to defend themselves in freedom. - The court denied the preventive eviction and the prohibition for them to go to the farm or land they are claiming."

<https://twitter.com/bufetedignidad/status/1533845503930138625>

<https://twitter.com/bufetedignidad/status/1533913683855802371>

The ninth Summit of the Americas took off yesterday amid controversy about the guest list.

President Xiomara won't attend, but the Honduran government will be represented by Foreign Minister Enrique Reina, Economic Development Minister Pedro Barquero and the presidential secretary Héctor Zelaya.

Xiomara claims that there won't be any repercussions for her non-attendance.

Criterio published an overview of the discussions in Honduras.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/hoy-arranca-cumbre-de-las-americas-en-estados-unidos/>

<https://twitter.com/XiomaraCastroZ/status/1534015632433369088>

<https://criterio.hn/xiomara-castro-no-asistira-a-cumbre-de-las-americas-y-ee-uu-asegura-que-no-habra-repercusiones/>

<https://criterio.hn/inasistencia-de-xiomara-castro-a-la-cumbre-de-las-americas-genera-controversia-en-honduras/>

These last days, the president of the Supreme Court has been trying to distance himself from his former close ally JOH.

<https://criterio.hn/rolando-argueta-se-desmarca-de-joh-para-limpiar-su-imagen/>

Honduras Now writes that the ZEDE Próspera requests consultations under the free trade agreement CAFTA-DR after Honduran Congress overturned the ZEDE law. Próspera seeks to continue its operation.

At the same time, social movements filed two complaints before the MP regarding the possible usurpation of functions committed by members of the Committee for the Adoption of Best Practices of the ZEDE, better known as CAMP.

The ZEDEs are also a challenge for the Xiomara administration which promised their total repeal.

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1533855017098256384>

<https://criterio.hn/zede-prospera-presiona-por-dialogo-bajo-cafta-dr/>

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-el-camp-de-las-zede-por-usurpacion-de-funciones/>

<https://criterio.hn/la-otra-realidad-tras-la-derogacion-de-las-zede-y-el-discurso-enganoso-del-presidente-del-congreso/>

Education Minister Daniel Esponda met with the US ambassador Laura F. Dogu to discuss cooperation in the education sector.

<https://confidencialhn.com/esponda-afianza-lazos-de-cooperacion-en-materia-educativa-con-nueva-embajadora-de-estados-unidos/>

Linked to the ZEDEs is the question of the extractive development model pushed by the JOH regime. CESPAD inquires how much of this is left under the Xiomara administration.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/06/06/coyuntura-desde-los-territorios-por-que-sigue-vigente-el-proyecto-extractivista-heredado-del-gobierno-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-joh/>

Executives at the Property Institute (IP) demand from the MP to press charges against the former right-hand-man of JOH, Ebal Díaz, for corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/solicitan-al-mp-presentar-requerimiento-fiscal-contra-ebal-diaz-por-supuestos-actos-de-corrupcion/>

07/06/22

Honduras Daily: JOH - Trial; Corruption - Banasupro; Summit; Xiomara; Police; Education; COVID-19 - US; Health Sector - Children; and a Popular Assembly on Energy

El Herald reports that some 50 witnesses will testify during JOH's trial starting on September 28. Among them may even be the former police chief and extradited drug trafficker suspect Juan Carlos "El Tigre" Bonilla.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/defensa-expresidente-hernandez-preve-tigre-bonilla-testifique-en-contra-joh-juan-orlando-nueva-york-narcotrafico-extraditados-honduras-AA8552637>

The CNA presented a new corruption case involving the National Supplier of Basic Goods (BANASUPRO).

<https://www.cna.hn/informe-bonosupro/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/cna-identifica-otro-acto-de-corrupcion-en-banasupro-mediante-proyecto-de-bonos-solidarios/>

The start of the Americas Summit brought about a lot of announcements by the US government.

"Vice President Kamala Harris today announced more than \$1.9 billion in new private sector commitments to create economic opportunity in northern Central America, more than doubling the value of initial private sector investments in response to her Call to Action."

"Today, Vice President Kamala Harris announced the Central American Service Corps (CASC). The CASC initiative was developed by public, private, and philanthropic partners in response to the Vice President's Call to Action for northern Central America. CASC—a \$50 million initiative, which will be administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)—will provide young people in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras with paid community service opportunities, mentorship, and a path to future employment."

"U.S. Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Partnership for Central America (PCA), come together to announce programs supporting women's economic empowerment in northern Central America and the broader Western Hemisphere".

These announcements were critically accompanied, among others by US representatives Chuy García, Jan Schakowsky and Delia Ramirez. "The U.S. must acknowledge its role in the root causes of migration from Central America & be honest about the role our foreign policy has played in destabilizing the region. I joined Rep. @JanSchakowsky & @RepDeliaRamirez to advocate for anti-imperialist foreign policy."

Honduras Now also reacted: "\$1.9 billion in US aid to “northern triangle” countries, announced U.S. VP Kamala Harris. This means more US-funded NGOs promoting & pushing the state department line in the name of “civil society” like @asjhn1 has done since the coup”.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/07/fact-sheet-vice-president-harris-announces-more-than-1-9-billion-in-new-private-sector-commitments-as-part-of-call-to-action-for-northern-central-america/>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/07/fact-sheet-vice-president-harris-announces-the-central-american-service-corps-casc/>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/07/fact-sheet-vice-president-harris-announces-new-commitments-supporting-womens-economic-empowerment-in-latin-america/>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/06/readout-of-vice-president-harris-dinner-with-business-executives-and-leadership-of-the-call-to-action-for-northern-central-america/>

<https://twitter.com/RepChuyGarcia/status/1534243926785331200>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1534389183111913473>

"While the media campaign against President Xiomara Castro for not attending the Summit of the Americas continues to cause a stir in Honduras, the White House states that good relations will continue and that it is their "sovereign right"." (see also yesterday)

<https://criterio.hn/ausencia-de-presidenta-castro-en-cumbre-no-interfiere-en-relacion-con-honduras-casa-blanca/>

CESPAD looks at the priorities of the Xiomara administration through a budgetary lens.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/06/07/presupuesto-nacional-donde-estan-las-prioridades-del-gobierno-presidido-por-xiomara-castro/>

"Over a 1,000 Honduran police that were fired during US-funded "clean up" of National police are protesting & demanding they be given their jobs back. Most have sued the gov't. This is another sign of police reform failure that US promoted for yrs under a narco regime".

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1534392991699374082>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/06/07/policias-depurados-amenazan-con-protestas-gobierno-anuncia-resolucion/>

More than 700'000 children are excluded from the education system and half the children starting school won't make it to the 9th class.

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-700-mil-menores-estan-excluidos-de-educacion-en-honduras/>

The US donated another 250'000 vaccine doses to Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/eeuu-dona-a-honduras-otras-249210-dosis-de-vacuna-pfizer-contra-la-covid-19-a-traves-de-covax/>

"In Honduras, every two hours a child under five years of age dies as a result of the lack of preventive health interventions, said the Association for a More Just Society (ASJ) on Tuesday in the fifth installment of the series "State of the country: Honduras 2022". (...) In this issue, it pointed out that the deterioration of the health system is shown by the fact that between 2011 and 2022, an average of 3,925 children under five years of age died each year, in many cases due to the lack of preventive health intervention; in other words, in Honduras, a child under five years of age dies every two hours."

<https://confidencialhn.com/en-honduras-cada-dos-horas-muere-un-nino-menor-de-cinco-anos-por-falta-de-una-intervencion-de-prevencion-en-salud-asj/>

MADJ organized a popular assembly on energy as a human rights. "Our compañero and Political Affairs Coordinator of MADJ, Victor Fernandez said: "In MADJ we were in a popular assembly. Debating on the need for a popular energy model; of the people and for the people... Respectful of the "environment"."

<https://madj.org/2022/06/07/foro-asamblea-popular-decidamos-la-energia-como-derecho-humano/>

08/06/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs - Protection; Xiomara; Congress; Judicial Power; EU; Corruption - Penal Code, AG, IHSS; Transparency; and People Power in Print

Human rights defenders denounce that the protection mechanism for them is in a state of disarray. "Human rights defenders and journalists have expressed their discontent with the ineffectiveness of the Protection Mechanism. Víctor Fernández, a legal professional and human rights defender, told Criterio.hn that his impression and feeling as a beneficiary of protection measures is that this entity "does not work, or at least has not begun to work"."

<https://criterio.hn/mecanismo-de-proteccion-para-defensores-en-honduras-esta-en-coma/>

CESPAD highlights various challenges faced by the Xiomara administration (the chronic deficit of a democratic state of rights; the authoritarian enclave of the military; chronic police corruption the ineffective system for the protection of human rights) as well as possible paths forward (transformation and democratization of the State; enabling the civic-democratic space; demilitarization of the State and Society; carrying out a true police reform; redefining the design of the national system for the defense of human rights).

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/06/08/el-autoritarismo-en-derechos-humanos-la-herencia-de-12-anos-en-honduras/>

Libre congressman Jorge Cálix was elected as the head of an independent bench in Congress. This goes back to the beginning of the Xiomara administration when a rift went through Libre regarding the congressional leadership. After some weeks, things calmed down and everyone seemed to be behind Luis Redondo as the president of Congress, but some days ago, the discussions flared up again.

<https://criterio.hn/diputados-disidentes-de-libre-concretan-bancada-independiente-se-augura-nuevas-crisis/>

<https://proceso.hn/jorge-calix-elegido-como-lider-de-la-bancada-independiente-de-libre/>

"The bill for the selection of the new magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) was put on hold, as the idea was that it would be approved before June, prior to the one-month vacation of the deputies of the National Congress."

<https://criterio.hn/ley-para-seleccion-de-nuevos-magistrados-queda-en-suspenso/>

"The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) in partnership with the European Union (EU) and through PROdemos launches a web platform for transparency and accountability of political parties."

<https://confidencialhn.com/nimd-en-alianza-con-la-ue-a-traves-de-prodemos-lanza-plataforma-web-de-transparencia-y-rendicion-de-cuentas-de-partidos-politicos/>

"Although the National Congress granted special status to the Specialized Prosecutorial Unit Against Corruption Networks (Uferco), Honduras' Penal Code, which was put in place by the conservative National Party, remains the main obstacle to challenging corrupt individuals."

<https://criterio.hn/aunque-uferco-tiene-estatus-especial-codigo-penal-sigue-siendo-obstaculo-para-combatir-a-corruptos/>

Another obstacle is the Attorney General himself. "Chinchilla is considered part of the criminal structure set up by former President Juan Orlando Hernández, extradited to the United States, accused of trafficking around 500,000 kilograms of cocaine, possession of machine guns and destructive devices, and conspiracy to possess machine guns and destructive devices. Chinchilla's position, through the social networks of the Public Prosecutor's Office, coincides with the agenda set by media outlets linked to power groups that oppose the Uferco's power to prosecute those involved in corruption networks without requiring their authorization or that of another prosecutorial authority, which they consider to be "unconstitutional"."

<https://criterio.hn/oscar-chinchilla-y-su-incomoda-postura-ante-independencia-de-la-uferco/>

The sentence against the former IHSS director Mario Zelaya in the huge corruption scandal involving the social security institute was ratified.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/sala-penal-le-da-la-razon-al-mp-al-dejar-firme-fallo-condenatorio-por-corrupcion-en-el-ihss/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/08/justicia-ratifica-sentencia-condenatoria-contr-exfuncionarios-del-ihss/>

Back in April, Congress discussed the repeal of the Special Law of the National Defense and Security Council. This would allow to declassify all information that originated during the JOH regime. But nothing happened with the law since April.

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/sin-dictamen-proyecto-para-derogar-consejo-nacional-de-defensa-y-seguridad/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/08/poder-popular-el-nuevo-producto-de-la-maquinaría-mediática-del-gobierno/>

09/06/22

Honduras Daily; HR; Berta - Gualcarque; Femicides; Police - US; Summit - US; Congress; Migration - Deportations; Poverty - Children, Remittances;

PBI published a report on the human rights situation in Honduras.

https://pbi-honduras.org/sites/pbi-honduras.org/files/publications/Deconstruir_para_construir_Situacion_derechos_humanos_2022.pdf

COPINH informed that Jacobo Atala Zablah has been called to testify during the Galcarque Fraud hearing. COPINH had requested this. The hearing will take place between July 25 and August 19.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1534974580288282625>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1535029698526433307>

The number of femicides had reached 130 by the end of May.

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-sin-combate-a-la-violencia-hacia-las-mujeres-hasta-mayo-contabilizan-130-femicidios/>

Honduras commemorated their police force yesterday. Security Minister Ramón Sabillón speaks of a "new National Police".

But there are still some old elements. Human Rights Minister Natalie Roque demanded a swift investigation into the murder of soccer fan Wilson Pérez by police agents (see last week).

She also denounced that the MP denied her access to the results of the autopsy.

Police director Gustavo Sánchez stated that they would hand over the implicated agents to the MP.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/09/esta-es-una-nueva-policia-nacional-aseguran-autoridades-de-seguridad/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/ministra-ddhh-indaga-autopsia-wilson-perez-demanda-celeridad-AJ8579417>

<https://criterio.hn/ministerio-publico-entorpece-entrega-de-resultados-de-autopsia-del-joven-aficionado-wilson-perez/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/policia-nacional-pone-a-disposicion-agentes-implicados-en-muerte-de-barrista-y-asegura-que-crimen-de-fiscal-esta-casi-resuelto/>

US ambassador Laura F Dogu, meanwhile, lauded the police officials who reached a higher rank.

And she also praised the collaboration of the police with INL.

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1535013844422123520>

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1535015499049885704>

"The Foreign Minister of Honduras, Eduardo Enrique Reina, defended the decision of President Xiomara Castro not to attend the IX Summit of the Americas taking place in Los Angeles, USA, due to the exclusion of Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua, and affirmed that the position of the president does not affect the "good relationship" that the country has with the White House. In an interview with CNN, the official, who attended the Summit on behalf of Honduras, pointed out that the determination of the leftist president does not have to do with an ideological issue but with a "moral" issue, and recalled that former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández, now on trial for drug trafficking and possession of weapons in a New York court, was invited to these regional conclaves. "Juan Orlando Hernandez was a human rights violator in a narco-state, a failed state, was he ever denied entry to any summit? He went to the Summits of the Americas and they never told him not to come", said the Foreign Minister."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/09/honduras-senala-amoralidad-de-eeuu-en-cumbre-joh-es-violador-de-ddhh-y-nunca-le-dijeron-que-no-venga/>

Yesterday, several news outlets reported that Libre dissidents created their own bench inside Congress with Jorge Cálix at its head. The latter now dismisses this and says that he support president Xiomara.

<https://proceso.hn/jorge-calix-descarta-una-bancadita-en-libre-y-dice-apoya-a-la-presidenta-castro/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/09/jorge-calix-desmiente-la-conformacion-de-bancadita-dentro-del-partido-libre/>

Deportations to the three Northern Triangle countries reached almost 70'000 in the first four months of 2022, over 100% more than the previous year.

<https://proceso.hn/deportaciones-al-norte-de-centroamerica-suman-69188-un-107-mas-que-2021/>

"The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) presented the report "Repercussions of the war in Ukraine: How to face this new crisis?" in which it states that Honduras is one of the most affected nations in the region, causing higher inflation, food insecurity and poverty."

<https://criterio.hn/cepal-expone-que-guerra-en-ucrania-hunde-a-honduras-en-inflacion-pobreza-e-inseguridad-alimentaria/>

"There are fears that the threat posed by pneumonia – already one of the leading causes of child death in Honduras – is growing. Child deaths caused by the disease are strongly linked to malnutrition, lack of safe water and sanitation, and inadequate access to healthcare."

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/jun/09/poverty-drought-impending-famine-now-pneumonia-takes-its-cruel-toll-on-honduran-children-acc>

Remittances sent to Honduras increased by over 20% compared to 2021.

<https://confidencialhn.com/remesas-suben-un-20-1-en-honduras-en-los-primeros-cinco-meses-de-2022/>

10/06/22

Honduras Daily: LGBTQI+; Drug Trafficking - Police, COBRAS; Corruption - UN, Mobile Hospitals; and Inspired by Bukele

OACNUDH condemned the murder of the LGBTQI+ defender Brayan Josué López Guzmán on June 5 in San Pedro Sula.

<https://oacnudh.hn/oacnudh-condena-el-asesinato-de-brayan-josue-lopez-guzman-defensor-de-los-derechos-humanos-de-las-personas-lgbti/>

El Heraldo reports that the prosecution in New York started to negotiate with the former Honduran police chief Juan Carlos “El Tigre” Bonilla and demanded a rescheduling of the second hearing in his case.

Apparently, it will now take place on July 11.

Back in Honduras, the MP seized goods and properties of Bonilla worth 10 million Lempiras, from the same Bonilla who just weeks ago said that he was broke and could not pay for a lawyer.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/fiscalia-estados-unidos-confirma-negocia-juan-carlos-tigre-bonilla-extraditado-narcotrafico-hondureno-exjefe-policia-JD8599694>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/10/reprograman-audiencia-de-bonilla-en-ee-uu-fiscalia-incauta-sus-bienes/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/mp-procede-a-incautar-19-bienes-y-productos-financieros-al-exdirector-de-la-policia-juan-carlos-bonilla/>

<https://criterio.hn/incautan-mas-de-10-millones-al-tigre-bonilla-mientras-le-reprograman-audiencia-en-ee-uu/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1535422902228684802>

"Members of the former Honduran elite police unit, the COBRAS, worked with the ‘Los Grillos’ criminal gang to steal drug money and shipments, according to newly released U.S. court documents. Los Grillos, together with the special forces police unit are involved in selling and stealing drugs “through police operations” and according to Honduran press reports, act as contract hitman."

<https://www.hondurasnow.org/new-documents-highlight-u-s-trained-special-forces-involved-in-drug-trafficking-and-gangs/>

"The Secretary General of the United Nations (UN), Antonio Guterres, ratified that they maintain the will for the International Commission Against Impunity (CICIH) to be established in Honduras as soon as possible, assured the Chancellor of the Republic, Enrique Reina."

<https://criterio.hn/naciones-unidas-preserva-voluntad-que-en-honduras-se-instale-comision-contra-la-impunidad/>

<https://proceso.hn/segun-gobierno-onu-ratifica-respaldo-para-instalacion-de-cicih-lo-mas-pronto-posible/>

In the mobile hospitals corruption case, the former INVEST-H director Marco Bográn was condemned to 10 years and 11 months prison.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/10/condenan-a-marco-bogran-a-10-anos-de-prision-mas-pena-multimillonaria/>

<https://criterio.hn/plan-control-territorial-de-bukele-la-politica-que-promueve-viceministra-de-seguridad-de-honduras/>

12/06/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Students; Poverty - Child Labor; Migration;

ConexiHon reports on the successful legal campaign by C-Libre to stop the persecution of three MILPAH defenders. This last month, 22 MILPAH defenders had the criminalizing charges dropped against themselves using the Amnesty Law.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/dh/2001-finaliza-persecucion-judicial-contra-tres-miembros-de-milpah>

"Student's Day is celebrated in Honduras on June 11, in honor of the birth on that date of Father José Trinidad Reyes, who created the basis for university education in Honduras. Father Reyes, who died on January 8, 1871, is one of the most interesting figures in the educational history of our

country. Sincerely he was a renaissance being: He was a theologian, poet, philosopher, priest, playwright, educator, in addition to the above knowledge he brought the first piano to Honduras."

<https://criterio.hn/el-origen-del-dia-del-estudiante-en-honduras/>

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1536004511428448257>

The president of the National Statistics Institute (INA) Eugenio Sosa denounced that poverty statistics under the JOH regime had been tampered with.

<https://tiempo.hn/gobierno-de-joh-manipulo-datos-pobreza-honduras/>

According to World Vision, child labor increased by more than 30% in Honduras as a consequence of the pandemic.

<https://confidencialhn.com/world-vision-migracion-y-trabajo-infantil-aumentaron-en-30-despues-de-la-pandemia-en-honduras/>

Pasos de Animal Grande reports on last week's Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection made during the Americas Summit.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/contexto/item/3385-cumbre-de-las-americas-lideres-de-20-paises-comprometidos-a-proteger-la-seguridad-y-la-dignidad-de-todos-los-migrantes>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/06/10/los-angeles-declaration-on-migration-and-protection/>

13/06/22

Honduras Daily: LGBTQ+; Berta - Trial; Corruption - Congress, EU, Church, SENASA, Invest-H; Health Sector; and Rights for Women Peasants

Another member of the LGBTQ+ community was murdered this month in Honduras, trans woman Suany Maradiaga violently lost her life on Sunday. Previous to her death, she had denounced threats at the MP but was ignored.

<https://criterio.hn/ministerio-publico-invisibilizo-denuncia-de-mujer-trans-que-despues-fue-asesinada/>

The sentencing of David Castillo has been postponed for the 4th time.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1536362757683134465>

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/por-cuarta-vez-reprograman-lectura-de-sentencia-contra-asesino-de-berta-caceres/>

Luis Redondo, Congress' president, presented his report on the first 100 days of the new Congress. It highlights an almost 3 billion Lempiras theft by the previous Congress. "The anomalies in the previous Congresses are multiple, among them the falsification of documents, destruction of physical and electronic public files in order to hide information and elimination of incriminating evidence, denounces the report headed by the head of this State power, Luis Redondo."

<https://proceso.hn/despilfarros-fraude-y-redes-de-corrupcion-internas-en-congresos-anteriores-denuncia-en-informe-luis-redondo/>

<https://criterio.hn/congreso-pago-seguro-medico-y-de-vida-a-micheletti-y-joh-durante-administracion-de-mauricio-oliva/>

EU ambassador Jaume Segura announced that they would support an independent anti-corruption body.

<https://proceso.hn/ue-dispuesta-a-apoyar-comision-anticorrupcion-en-honduras-si-es-independiente/>

In its first statement under the new leadership, the Episcopal Conference of Honduras also focused on corruption and highlighted the need for a structural change beginning with the election of the new Supreme Court judges and the Attorney General.

<https://confidencialhn.com/no-seguir-con-mas-de-lo-mismo-la-corrupcion-y-la-impunidad-aun-estan-dejando-sombras-conferencia-episcopal-de-honduras/>

<https://eliberador.hn/2022/06/13/iglesia-llama-a-construir-dialogo-social-para-autentica-refundacion-de-honduras/>

"The Special Prosecutor's Office for Transparency and Fight against Public Corruption (FETCCOP) obtained this Monday a formal indictment against Raúl Alejandro Rosales Espinoza, former official of the National Agri-Food Health and Safety Service (SENASA), for allegedly being responsible for two crimes of fraud against the public administration and two crimes of falsification of public documents against the public faith."

<https://confidencialhn.com/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-contr-exfuncionario-de-senasa-por-corrupcion/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-contr-exfuncionario-de-senasa/>

The hearing in the fraudulent mask purchase by Invest-H started yesterday.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/comienza-audiencia-inicial-por-millonaria-compra-irregular-de-mascarillas-en-invest-h/>

ConfidencialHN reports that some 1200 employees at the University Hospital are without a contract since this month. Labor unions announced actions.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mil-200-empleados-del-hospital-escuela-se-quedan-sin-contrato-en-junio-sindicato-anuncia-acciones/>

<https://criterio.hn/piden-a-presidenta-castro-garantizar-derechos-economicos-de-las-mujeres-rurales/>

14/06/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Corruption - Sports, UN; US; Health Sector; Libre; Drug Trafficking; and a Pawn of the Powerful...

Radio Progreso denounces the criminalization of their correspondent Sonia Pérez and 30 more members of an indigenous Lenca council.

<https://twitter.com/RadioProgresoHN/status/1536757518248312832>

<https://criterio.hn/ministerio-publico-mantiene-en-firme-criminalizacion-contra-defensora-del-medio-ambiente/>

"On May 27th, the National Congress repealed 19 decrees that led to the creation of governmental trusts that "deteriorated and immobilized public finances". This package of reforms proposed by President Castro omits the Fideicomiso Nacional de Apoyo y Promoción al Deporte (Finaprode) which was used to benefit businessmen and congressmen of the previous administration, according to an investigation by Contracorriente."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/14/gobierno-mantiene-en-suspenso-el-fideicomiso-de-apoyo-al-deporte-a-pesar-de-irregularidades/>

"Eduardo Enrique Reina, Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (SRECI), said Tuesday that relations with the United Nations (UN) for the installation of the International Commission against Corruption in Honduras (CICIH) are advanced, but that the agreement for its arrival could be signed until the end of this year."

<https://proceso.hn/canciller-habla-de-acuerdos-solidos-con-la-onu-pero-pacto-de-la-cicih-podria-firmarse-hasta-finales-del-ano/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/gobierno-asegura-contar-con-apoyo-de-la-onu-para-instalar-cicih/>

The same Reina says that \$2 billion are ready to be invested in Honduras by the US government. Criterio is more critical about the promised funds.

<https://confidencialhn.com/inversion-de-2-mil-millones-por-parte-del-gobierno-de-eeuu-esta-abierta-para-honduras-canciller-enrique-reina/>

<https://criterio.hn/inversiones-promovidas-por-ee-uu-no-vienen-a-regalar-nada-a-honduras/>

There is some good news for health workers. Agreements have already been made with 1700 out of 1900 workers and outstanding salaries worth 75 million Lempiras have been paid.

<https://proceso.hn/sesal-ya-entrego-mil-700-acuerdos-de-mil-900-en-proceso-anuncia-dirigencia-del-gremio-de-la-enfermeria/>

Last week, there were rumors that a dissident bench inside Libre would be formed. Yesterday, Libre's bench met with president Xiomara and reconfirmed their support for her administration.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/reafirmamos-nuestro-respaldo-gobierno-bancada-libre-reunion-xiomara-castro-no-division-KF8645963>

<https://confidencialhn.com/diputados-de-libre-establecen-respaldo-total-a-la-presidenta-xiomara-castro-y-aseguran-no-existe-bancadita/>

A judge allowed the extradition of accused drug trafficker Herlinda Bobadilla to the US.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/autorizan-extradicion-herlinda-bobadilla-narcotrafico-honduras-JK8639391>

<https://confidencialhn.com/trasladan-a-la-csj-a-herlinda-bobadilla-a-nueva-audiencia-en-su-proceso-de-extradicion/>

...or a powerful pawn?

<https://proceso.hn/jorge-calix-es-un-peon-de-los-grupos-de-poder-bartolo-fuentes/>

15/06/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - EU; Hydroelectricity - Reitoca; Journalists; Xiomara; Judicial Power; Electricity; Rains; Health Sector; Transparency; and the End of the National Party?

EU Parliamentarians called for justice for Berta Cáceres "without any more delay" referring to the ongoing rescheduling of the sentencing of David Castillo.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1537158126130053123>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/especial/berta-caceres/item/3387-miembros-del-parlamento-europeo-exigen-ya-no-mas-retrasos-para-conocer-la-sentencia-condenatoria-de-david-castillo>

<https://proceso.hn/europarlamentarios-reiteran-la-peticion-de-justicia-para-berta-caceres/>

"On June 20 and 27, two of the most renowned Indigenous Lenca leaders from the Consejo Indígena Lenca de Reitoca, Wilmer Otoniel Alonzo, President of the Council, and Jose Orlando Rodas Garcia, his brother-in-law, will face trial on charges of usurpation and damages. Their trial will be heard by Court of Letters of Francisco Morazan in the Supreme Court of Justice of Tegucigalpa. The malicious criminal case against the Indigenous Land Defenders goes back to October 2018 when hydroelectric company Promotora de Generación de Energía Limpia S.A (PROGELSA) filed a complaint at the Public Ministry against the pair in an attempt to repress the peaceful organizing of the wider Indigenous Lenca community of Reitoca, who were adamant to stop the illegal development of a dam project on the sacred Grande River in Lenca ancestral territory. PROGELSA was founded by Jack Arevalo Fuentes, the former Manager of the ENEE, who has long been associated with controversial hydroelectric projects in Honduras."

<https://www.bufetejusticiaparalospueblos.org/blank-page>

"The Honduran artist and social communicator, Allan Valeriano, better known as "Gazu Beatbox", denounced that, for having criticized the poor state of the streets of Tegucigalpa and the lack of work of the mayor of the capital, Jorge Aldana, he received threats from activists of the Libertad y Refundación (Libre) party."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1505-comunicador-social-gazu-beatbox-es-amenazado-por-cuestionar-la-gestion-del-alcalde-capitalino>

The Alignment against Continuity, formed under the JOH regime, published its 69th statement on the state of Honduras. "In any political transition scenario two forces converge: those who are betting on changing the course of the country and the forces that want to maintain power and their privileges, in the Honduran case they are determined to maintain the protection of the criminal structure that they achieved since the coup d'état. Faithful to our mystique of social movements, we believe and continue to fight to redirect the country from the destructive course of the last decade as we express in this Public Manifesto number 69".

Giorgio Trucchi also looks at the first five months of the Xiomara administration.

Criterio, meanwhile, highlights some disappointing continuities.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/manifiesto-publico-de-la-convergencia-contr-el-continuisimo/>

<https://managuaconamor.blogspot.com/2022/06/honduras-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro.html>

<https://criterio.hn/malas-practicas-del-gobierno-anterior-parecen-ser-replicadas-en-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro/>

Congress is awaiting the legal opinion of a bill aiming to reform the integration of the nominating committee for the new Supreme Court judges.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/15/diputados-esperan-dictamen-para-reformar-la-integracion-de-junta-nominadora/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/denuncian-que-eleccion-de-nueva-csj-se-pretende-realizar-con-la-ley-vigente/>

Energy prices will increase by at least 5% in Honduras.

Energy Minister Erick Tejada met with the head of the Mexican oil company Pemex.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/15/gobierno-anuncia-aumento-de-al-menos-cinco-por-ciento-en-tarifa-electrica/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ministro-de-energia-se-reune-con-gerente-de-pemex/>

Heavy rains have affected over 3500 people in Honduras and at least 7 people died.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mas-de-3-mil-300-personas-afectadas-y-siete-muertos-deja-temporada-de-lluvias-en-honduras/>

"The Secretary of Health, Manuel Matheu, stated that the country's public medical centers are supplied with up to 68% of the basic list of medicines. Matheu assured that he is already holding meetings to carry out, in August, the bidding process for the purchase of medicines and medical supplies and to be able to receive them as from January of next year."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/red-hospitalaria-esta-abastecida-en-un-68-de-medicamentos/>

"The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will provide assistance to Honduras to install an "Electronic Government" system to provide a better service to the population and investors, an official source informed on Wednesday."

<https://confidencialhn.com/bid-ayudara-a-honduras-en-instalar-un-gobierno-electronico/>

<https://criterio.hn/conservador-partido-nacional-refleja-declive-con-caudillos-ligados-a-joh-y-con-augurios-a-desaparecer/>

16/06/22

Honduras Daily: Tolupán; Journalists; Berta - Trial; Garífuna; Amnesty; Diplomacy; Corruption - UFERCO, UN, Judiciary; Extortion; Education; Congress; and Forced Displacement

"The Broad Movement for Dignity and Justice (MADJ) denounced a new attack against indigenous people of the Tolupán tribe of San Francisco Locomapa in the municipality of Yoro. According to the information detailed by MADJ, the aggressor would be the retired general, Filander Armijo Uclés, who had previously attacked the same tribe and was even condemned by the Honduran justice system for being responsible for dispossessing entire families of the Tolupán tribe of their lands and exiling them."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-a-militar-retirado-por-nuevo-ataque-contra-tribu-tolupan-en-yoro/>

C-Libre has more on the criminalization of Radio Progreso correspondent Sonia Pérez (see last days).

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1506-juez-hondureno-le-prohibe-a-comunicadora-social-acercarse-a-sus-fuentes-informativas>

OACNUDH criticizes the ongoing rescheduling of David Castillo's sentencing and asks for the court date on June 20 to be upheld.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDH/status/1537568069618376706>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHONDURAS/status/1537510785252880384>

The Spanish news outlet EL Español interviewed Garífuna defenders Miriam Miranda and Yessica Trinidad.

https://www.lespanol.com/enclave-ods/historias/20220616/garifunas-territorios-ancestrales-honduras-no-cabemos-paisajes/680432000_0.html

COFADEH successfully defended the criminalized student, Hery Yovani Flores Quiroz. The amnesty law was applied to his case and he was freed.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/cofadeh-logra-aplicacion-del-decreto-de-ammistia-a-favor-de-estudiante-criminalizado/>

Former Libre congresswoman and daughter of Berta Cáceres Olivia Cáceres has been nominated as the new ambassador to Cuba.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/hija-berta-caceres-nombrada-nueva-embajadora-honduras-cuba-XE8677624>

The law giving more autonomy to UFERCO has officially been published in La Gaceta.

Congressional vice-president Fátima Mena demands that UFERCO now also gets more funding.

<https://criterio.hn/se-legaliza-potestad-conferida-a-uferco-para-combatir-de-manera-frontal-redes-de-corrupcion-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/ahora-es-importante-dotar-de-recursos-a-la-uferco-dice-vicepresidenta-del-congreso-nacional/>

CESPAD published a report on the need for an independent and autonomous UN-backed anti-corruption mission with a strong focus on human rights.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/06/16/coalicion-anticorrupcion-aspira-a-una-ciclh-independiente-autonoma-y-con-enfoque-de-derechos-humanos/>

The Due Process Law Foundation and Lawyers without Borders Canada published a joint report with recommendations on the selection process of the new Supreme Court judges.

https://dplf.org/sites/default/files/informe_proceso_seleccion_magistrados_corte_suprema_csj_honduras.pdf

The head of the National Police Gustavo Sánchez finds clear words: "Police, military, prosecutors, judicial officials, businessmen, politicians, bus drivers and collectors, and other government agencies are allegedly involved in criminal structures engaged in extortion."

<https://proceso.hn/funcionarios-policiales-judiciales-y-de-otros-entes-del-estado-estan-detras-de-extorsion-reconoce-director-de-pn/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/policias-militares-y-hasta-fiscales-estarian-involucrados-en-delitos-de-extorsion-asegura-director-de-pn/>

<https://criterio.hn/transporte-en-honduras-continua-acechado-por-la-extorsion/>

"The Government of Honduras announced that the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) will provide technological support for educational centers, especially those farthest away from energy and internet connection, informed the Secretary of Education, Daniel Esponda."

<https://confidencialhn.com/gobierno-anuncia-que-el-bid-brindara-apoyo-tecnologico-para-los-centros-educativos-del-pais/>

"Of the 38 projects approved [in Congress] up to April, 19 are from the Libre Party, 11 from the PSH, 2 from the Liberal Party and 6 were sent by the Executive Branch through the initiative of the ministers through the Council of Ministers, while the National Party has none."

<https://criterio.hn/libre-y-psh-tienen-mas-proyectos-aprobados-en-primeros-meses-de-congreso-partido-nacional-ninguno/>

UNHCR published an infographic on forced displacement in Honduras.

<https://twitter.com/ACNURhonduras/status/1537539153457463298>

17/06/22

Honduras Daily: Corruption - JOH, National Party; LGBTQ+; ZEDEs; Violence against Women; World Bank; Migration; Drug Trafficking;

Various news outlet report that the Ortega government in Nicaragua gave citizenship to JOH's former right-hand-man Ebal Díaz wanted for corruption in Honduras.

Additionally to Díaz, Nicaragua also gave citizenship to JOH's former presidential secretary Ricardo Cardona López and his family.

El Libertador holds the MP and Attorney General Chinchilla responsible for this as they have not acted fast enough to stop Díaz' escape to Nicaragua.

<https://tiempo.hn/delitos-corrupcion-ebal-diaz-en-honduras-nicaragua/>

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/17/ortega-nacionaliza-a-ebal-diaz-uno-de-los-hombres-mas-cercanos-al-expresidente-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

<https://criterio.hn/ebal-diaz-y-ricardo-cardona-cuestionados-exfuncionarios-de-joh-protegidos-por-nicaragua-tras-su-nacionalizacion/>

<https://elibertador.hn/2022/06/17/fiscal-inutil-debe-responder-por-escape-de-ebal-diaz-juristas/>

"The president of the Legislative Branch, Luis Rolando Redondo, denounced several acts of alleged corruption by the head of the conservative National Party's bench, Tomás Zambrano, whom he accuses of not delivering several vehicles owned by the State of Honduras."

<https://criterio.hn/presidente-del-congreso-luis-redondo-sindica-en-corrupcion-a-jefe-de-bancada-del-partido-nacional/>

The Honduran government produced a radio spot in support of the LGBTQ+ community, but according to ConfidencialHN, this led to discussions inside the administration.

The Evangelical Confraternity called on state media "to respect moral and good customs"...

<https://confidencialhn.com/polemica-ha-generado-spot-de-radio-donde-una-nina-de-15-anos-confiesa-a-su-madre-ser-lesbiana/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/17/confraternidad-evangelica-pide-a-medios-estatales-respetar-la-moral-y-familia/>

ZEDE Próspera authorities still claim to have legal rights to stay in Honduras. "The technical secretary of the ZEDE Próspera, Jorge Colindres, affirmed in a morning television program that "the petrified articles" of the Constitution of the Republic "were never reformed". Somewhat annoyed, he asked and answered himself: "What articles were reformed? Articles 294, 303 and 329

were reformed to enable the regime of the Employment and Economic Development Zones in the Constitution and none of those is set in stone". However, the Honduran lawyer and researcher, Rafael Jerez, from his Twitter account, stated that the statement made by the Secretary of Prospera is false and that an unreformable article was reformed: Article 294, related to the national territory."

<https://criterio.hn/funcionarios-de-las-zede-mienten-al-decir-que-no-se-trastocaron-articulos-petres/>

"About 3,159 women "broke the silence" and denounced before the National Commissioner of Human Rights (Conadeh) to be victims of violations and abuses, according to a report revealed this Friday by this state agency, regarding the human rights situation in the Central American country during 2021."

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-3-mil-mujeres-presentaron-denuncias-por-violacion-a-sus-derechos-el-ano-anterior-en-honduras/>

"The Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank (WB) approved two new projects for a total of US\$185 million to strengthen the health system and address vulnerability in Honduras, the international financial organization announced on Friday."

<https://proceso.hn/banco-mundial-otorga-dos-prestamos-para-atender-emergencia-sanitaria-y-reducir-vulnerabilidad-en-honduras/>

Migrants transiting Honduras still await that an amnesty law for them will be ratified. Until then, they continue to have to pay fines.

<https://criterio.hn/migrantes-en-transito-por-honduras-siguen-pagando-multas-porque-amnistia-no-se-ha-sancionado/>

InSight Crime reports on the imminent extradition of Herlinda Bobadilla. "The head of a top Honduran drug clan will be extradited to the US, as officials chip away at the leadership of a once-powerful transport group. Herlinda Bobadilla, considered the principal leader of the longstanding Montes-Bobadilla drug clan, also known as "Los Montes," was greenlit for extradition to the United States on June 14. Her May 15 arrest resulted in the death of her son and criminal associate, Tito Montes Bobadilla, shortly after the two had \$5 million bounties placed on their heads by the US State Department."

<https://insightcrime.org/news/final-resurrection-honduras-montes-bobadilla-clan/>

19/06/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; WHRDs; LGBTQ+; Poverty; Amnesty; "Free" Trade; Prisons; COVID-19;

COPINH will hold a rally outside the Supreme Court today where the sentencing of David Castillo is expected.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1538553141523775488>

CESPAD and Civil Rights Defenders published a report on the situation of women Maya-Chortí defenders.

<https://cespad.org.hn/2022/06/19/sistematizacion-de-experiencias-del-encuentro-de-mujeres-maya-chorti/>

Last week, the National Radio of Honduras aired a pro-LGBTQ+ radio spot (see previous e-mail). "The Secretary of Human Rights Natalie Roque assured that a radio spot, broadcasted on the state-owned Radio Nacional de Honduras, on sexual diversity is an awareness campaign. She added that this announcement is in response to the sentence issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR) for the murder of the sexual diversity activist, Vicky Hernández, which occurred in 2010."

But it seems that the spot was withdrawn after protest by some listeners and the church as well as business actors.

Noticieros Hoy Mismo even reports that those responsible for the spot have been fired...

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/19/afirman-que-anuncio-sobre-diversidad-sexual-es-una-campana-de-sensibilizacion/>

<https://twitter.com/jeffgernst/status/1538730235205754880>

The private business lobby COHEP recently claims that the price of basic goods only rose a few percentage points in Honduras. FOSDEH takes issue with this.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fosdeh-en-desacuerdo-con-analisis-realizado-por-el-cohep-preve-que-costo-de-la-canasta-basica-podria-alcanzar-un-20-por-ciento/>

COFADEH published an article highlighting the importance of the Amnesty Law. 138 people have benefited so far, the great majority political prisoners and defenders criminalized related to land and territory struggles.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/el-decreto-de-ammistia-es-y-seguira-siendo-para-las-victimas-de-la-dictadura/>

President Xiomara asked International Labor Organization (ILO) representatives in Honduras to revise Honduras' "free" trade agreements. "Free trade agreements should be reviewed, because those who are most affected are the workers in the countries that lag behind."

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-castro-pide-a-la-oit-revisar-los-tratados-de-libre-de-comercio/>

The former director and deputy director of the Támara prison were arrested. Both are accused of torture.

<https://confidencialhn.com/exaltos-oficiales-de-la-carcel-de-tamara-fueron-capturados-confirma-ffaa>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/captura-dos-exdirectores-penitenciarios-acusados-torturados-YC8703144>

Doctor Carlos Umaña warned about an increase in COVID-19 cases in Honduras.

Meanwhile, UNICEF asks the Honduran government to speed up the vaccination of 5 to 11 year olds.

<https://proceso.hn/doctor-umana-advierte-aumento-de-casos-de-covid-19-tras-alta-incidencia-de-atenciones/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/honduras-experimenta-aumento-en-casos-covid-19/>

<https://proceso.hn/unicef-urge-a-honduras-acelerar-vacunacion-pediatrica-de-5-a-11-anos/>

20/06/22

Honduras Daily: Berta- Trial; HRDs - Reitoca; Corruption - JOH, COPECO; Extradition; Surveillance; Germany; IMF;

David Castillo has finally been sentenced for the assassination of Berta Cáceres - 22 years and six months in prison.

"Her youngest daughter, Laura Zúñiga Cáceres, welcomed the sentencing as another step in the fight for justice. "This is an important advance but the masterminds of the crime are still enjoying impunity thanks to their political and economic power. As victims of this crime, we, her family, members of Copinh and the Lenca people will continue demanding justice from the Honduran state." (...) During last year's 49-day trial, Daniel Atala Midence, Desa's financial manager, was summoned to give evidence due to his role in running operations with Castillo – which included authorising payments to informants used to monitor Cáceres. But Atala Midence was excused at the last minute after state prosecutors revealed that he was under investigation for the murder. No further information has been released but upon sentencing Castillo, the court ordered that the case files be kept under wraps as the investigation remains open."

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1538996316352684039>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/22-anos-seis-meses-de-reclusion-contra-presidente-de-desa-por-el-asesinato-de-berta-caceres/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/20/honduras-man-who-planned-berta-caceress-jailed-for-22-years>

A court postponed the criminalization trial against the two defenders from Reitoca, Wilmer Alonzo y José Orlando Rodas. Their lawyers denounce that this means a prolongation of the defenders' ordeal until January 2023.

OACNUDH also expressed concern.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/component/k2/item/6145-posponen-juicio-contra-defensores-del-rio-petacon-fiscal-argumento-que-no-tiene-los-testigos-tribunal-tolera-conducta-maliciosa>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHNN/status/1539042446876844033>

The bank accounts of the former JOH allies and public officials Ebal Díaz and Ricardo Cardona have been frozen. The MP made this public after it came to light that both men have received citizenship in Nicaragua where they fled to to avoid prosecution for corruption.

<https://confidencialhn.com/ministerio-publico-congela-cuentas-de-los-exfuncionarios-ebal-diaz-y-ricardo-cardona/>

<https://criterio.hn/tardamente-el-ministerio-publico-congela-cuentas-de-profugos-de-la-justicia-ebal-diaz-y-ricardo-cardona/>

<https://criterio.hn/ebal-diaz-su-escape-de-honduras-y-su-refugio-en-nicaragua-tras-la-extradicion-de-su-amigo-joh/>

In the corruption case against the former COPECO director, a court opened trial against him.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-en-contras-de-exministro-de-copeco-otros-funcionarios-y-empresario/>

Extraditions in Honduras have so far not been regulated by a proper law, Libre wants to change that and announced to present a bill in the next session.

<https://proceso.hn/bancada-de-libre-presentara-proyecto-de-ley-de-extradicion-previo-a-consultas-a-embajada-de-eeuu/>

Minister of Defense, José Manuel Zelaya, denies that Honduras uses the spyware Pegasus to intercept phones.

<https://proceso.hn/no-existe-sistema-para-intervencion-telefonica-son-rumores-asegura-ministro-de-defensa/>

"The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE) and the Federal Republic of Germany signed a financial cooperation agreement for up to EUR 132.0 million to promote sustainable, accessible and safe multimodal transportation projects for people that, in turn, contribute to improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, to promote Sustainable Urban Mobility projects in Central America."

<https://proceso.hn/bcie-y-alemania-firman-convenio-para-fomentar-la-movilidad-urbana-sostenible-de-ca/>

The Honduran government met with an IMF delegation.

<https://confidencialhn.com/fmi-y-gabinete-economico-de-honduras-inician-reuniones-en-busca-de-nuevos-acuerdos/>

21/06/22

Honduras Daily: Guapinol; Berta - Trial; Corruption - Congress; Judicial Power; Security - UNDP; Prisons; Drug Trafficking; BCIE; and Congressional Spending

Two news-roundups in a row that start with good news! After over three years of persecution, a court finally resolved the last matter to stop the criminalization of the Guapinol defenders Juan López, Leonel George, Reynaldo Domínguez, Marco Tulio Ramos and José Adaly Cedillo.

<https://twitter.com/guapinolre/status/1539425601160880130>

COPINH held a rally outside the BAC bank denouncing that its director Jacobo Atala is one of the men behind the murder of Berta Cáceres.

COPINH's Berta Zúniga met with president Xiomara.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1539288037259198466>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1539437372483436545>

"The Specialized Prosecutorial Unit Against Corruption Networks (UFERCO), filed a prosecutorial request against a [Nationalist] congressman, four former [Nationalists] congressmen, two legal representatives and two accountants of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) and five private individuals. They are Alberto Chedrani Castañeda (current congressman), José Oswaldo Ramos Soto, Ricardo Antonio Díaz Aceituno, José Vicente León Rojas and Rodimiro Mejía Merino (former congressmen), who according to the investigations carried out in the period between 2013-2017 are linked to fraudulent operations and looting of funds from the National Congress in collusion with the NGOs Community Leaders for Development (OLICODE) and Impulso Solidario (OIMSO)."

They are accused of stealing almost 20 million Lempiras.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/uferco-presenta-requerimiento-fiscal-contra-red-de-corrupcion-en-el-congreso-nacional/>

<https://tiempo.hn/uferco-requerimiento-fiscal-red-de-corrupcion-cn/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/exdiputados-requerimiento-fiscal-saqueo-fondos-congreso-nacional-DX8734324>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/elheraldoplus/interactivos/listado-ong-sedis-desfalco-familias-daminificadas-vivienda-DB8737885>

"The National Congress (NC) has not yet officially turned the bill for the selection of magistrates for the new Supreme Court of Justice over to the committee in charge of the draft law, so there is a justified fear that they want to move forward with more of the same, said Congressman Carlos Umaña."

<https://proceso.hn/urgimos-cambios-en-eleccion-de-magistrados-de-csj-sino-sera-solo-reparticion-carlos-umana/>

Security Minister Ramón Sabillón commented on the insecurity in Honduras and highlighted the difficulty to change a security model put in place over two decades in just four months. ""We are aiming to solve all the problems of citizen insecurity that we have, no matter the connotations, the approach, we are trying to respond to all the needs of the people; it is not easy to change a security model of 21 years and transform it today in a government that has another citizen security policy, which is in the sense of a community police, open, inclusive, addressing all security problems, what was not done in 22 years today we want to do in four months ... it is difficult to transform it in 4 months," he said."

The Guardian reported on internal displacement due to violence in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/es-dificil-cambiar-un-modelo-de-seguridad-de-mas-de-20-anos-en-4-meses-ramon-sabillon/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/jun/21/gangsters-killed-marias-sister-in-honduras-a-note-on-the-door-told-her-she-was-next->

The Honduran government signed an agreement with the UNDP "to strengthen the integral policy of coexistence and citizen security with a gender and human rights approach".

<https://confidencialhn.com/pnud-suscribe-convenio-con-honduras-para-fortalecer-la-politica-de-seguridad-ciudadana/>

"Defenders of the rights of persons deprived of liberty denounce that cruel and degrading treatment of this population continues to occur in prisons and question the granting of measures other than imprisonment for military personnel accused of torture in the "Marco Aurelio Soto" National Penitentiary."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-que-continuan-tratos-cruels-en-carceles-de-honduras/>

The sentencing of the former Honduran congressman Fredy Nájera in the US for drug trafficking was postponed to July 6.

<https://proceso.hn/sentencia-para-exdiputado-fredy-najera-ya-no-sera-el-29-de-junio/>

Honduras has \$2 billion in debt at the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE)).

<https://confidencialhn.com/de-2-mil-millones-de-dolares-es-la-deuda-que-mantiene-honduras-con-el-bcie/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/directora-financiera-del-cn-asegura-esta-ahorrando-l-18-millones-mensuales-en-pago-de-viaticos-a-congresistas/>

22/06/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; JOH - National Party; Corruption - Invest-H, Transparency; Waste; Poverty;

Goods news from Honduran court continue (see last two days and first link below). 17 campesines from the Aguán Valley had the criminalizing charges dropped against them yesterday.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/component/k2/item/6146-sala-de-lo-constitucional-ordena-libertad-definitiva-para-otros-cinco-defensores-de-guapinol>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHHN/status/1539784141104971776>

A debate broke loose in Honduras if JOH had intended to flee to Nicaragua before his extradition. His wife Ana García denies this.

<https://proceso.hn/joh-quiso-huir-a-nicaragua-para-solicitar-nacionalidad-pero-un-acuerdo-entre-eeuu-y-daniel-ortega-lo-impidio-ramon-barrios/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/joh-planeaba-huir-a-nicaragua-pero-fue-impedido-por-acuerdo-entre-daniel-ortega-y-ee-uu-segun-diputado-ramon-barrios/>

<https://proceso.hn/exprimera-dama-contradice-que-expresidente-hernandez-haya-intentado-huir-a-nicaragua/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/ana-garcia-de-hernandez-desmiente-que-joh-haya-intentado-huir-a-nicaragua/>

The National Party claims to be victims of political persecution...

They seem especially bothered that UFERCO continues to bring to light past corruption by them.

<https://confidencialhn.com/partido-nacional-acusa-a-la-presidenta-xiomara-castro-mel-zelaya-y-luis-redondo-de-persecucion-politica/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/22/nacionalistas-denuncian-supuesta-persecucion-actores-politicos-lo-desmienten/>

<https://criterio.hn/partido-nacional-arremete-contra-la-uferco-por-develar-corrupcion-del-regimen-que-instauro-joh/>

During his corruption trial, the head of Invest-H (involved in the mobile hospital case and another one involving face masks) Marco Bográn stated that the former officials Rocio Tabora, former finance minister, Roxana Rodriguez, former vice-minister of budget and Lilian Rivera, former vice-minister of public credits, were all involved in the mobile hospital fraud.

https://twitter.com/Prohn_Honduras/status/1539772675605860353

"Through a press release it was announced that the Secretariat of State in the Offices of Transparency and Fight against Corruption (STLCC), is unable to avoid the interruption of the services it provides through its digital platforms, due to lack of budget. In this sense, the document states that despite the fact that the National Congress approved the budget for the Secretariat of Transparency, the competent authorities have not yet enabled it. (...) Minister Edmundo Orellana

himself confirmed that "for three months we have been fighting for the approval of the budget, but the budget analysts are furious with the Secretariat because most of them are officials of the previous regime and surely they are colluding to boycott the proposal of the President of the Republic to install a system of transparency, accountability and fight against corruption".

<https://proceso.hn/denuncian-boicot-contrasecretaria-de-transparencia/>

<https://criterio.hn/pese-a-ostentar-el-poder-secretaria-anticorrupcion-denuncia-boicot-a-la-institucion-por-parte-del-gobierno-anterior/>

The government will request \$85 million from the Green Climate Fund to solve the waste problem in Omoa, Cortés.

<https://confidencialhn.com/alrededor-de-85-millones-de-dolares-solicitaran-al-fondo-verde-del-clima-para-solventar-problema-de-basura-en-omoa-senala-gobierno/>

The Xiomara administration announce new details on the Solidarity Network social program aimed to support 350'000 families.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/22/gobierno-lanza-programa-red-solidaria-para-beneficiar-a-mas-de-350-mil-familias/>

23/06/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Trial; Violence against Women; Corruption - Fonac; Central Bank; Rain; Judicial Power; Lawyers; Drug Trafficking; Armed Forces; and Deported Children

The IACHR called on the State of Honduras to continue investigating the murder of Honduras to bring to justice everyone behind the crime.

How much that is needed was just made clear again by an important new article by Jared Olson. "A trove of Dutch and U.S. legal and financial documents shared with The Intercept reveal, for the first time, the flow of international funding in the days leading up to March 2, 2016, when a hit squad broke into Cáceres's house and killed her. The bank provided the documents to two Dutch human rights lawyers, Wout Albers and Ron Rosenhart Rodriguez, who have spent the past two years representing Cáceres's family and COPINH, the organization she co-founded, in a civil lawsuit that seeks to hold FMO accountable for its role in the Agua Zarca project. (The suit was first filed in the Netherlands in 2018; Albers and Rosenhart came on in 2020.) In at least four instances, according to the records, the bank released funding to a company affiliated with Castillo and Atala that did not match the stated payee, routing the money through an offshore account with Deutsche Bank in New York City. (...) It was Atala who directed the \$1.7 million payment to the concrete company Concretos del Caribe S.A., or CONCASA, though another firm was listed as the intended recipient, the documents reveal. Hours after the loan landed, Castillo, in WhatsApp communications released

by the Honduran public prosecutor and previously reported on by The Intercept, texted the head of the hit squad that payment was coming, because “the loan [we] requested is available.” It is not known whether Castillo was referring to the loan proceeds sent to CONCASA. Less than 48 hours later, Berta Cáceres was dead.”

<https://twitter.com/CIDH/status/1539941647999442951>

<https://theintercept.com/2022/06/23/honduras-bera-caceres-murder-money-trail/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1540021735973703681>

"Women and girls are daily victims of different types of sexual violence, some survive and others are murdered, the records on these cases are handled in a negligent manner by the MP and other entities, once again hindering justice and the correct way to establish this information for surveys. The Women's Human Rights Observatory (CDM), elaborated a bulletin on sexual violence against women and girls in 2021. To produce this document, CDM conducted interviews and requested data from different entities, including: the Public Prosecutor's Office (MP), Forensic Medicine (MF), the Ministry of Security, the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ), the Ministry of Health (SESAL) and the National Emergency System (911)."

<https://criterio.hn/ministerio-publico-es-negligente-con-casos-de-violencia-sexual-y-asesinatos-de-mujeres/>

"Different sectors of civil society are requesting the disappearance of the National Convergence Forum (FONAC) or the rethinking of its actions, because they consider that this institution is at the service of corruption. The priest Ismael Moreno, director of Radio Progreso and of the Reflection, Investigation and Communication Team (ERIC), pointed out that FONAC has no reason to exist."

<https://criterio.hn/fonac-un-ente-del-estado-que-sirve-de-protector-de-politicos-corruptos-ismael-moreno/>

The Central Bank of Honduras approved a \$1 billion loan to the Xiomara administration financed by Honduras' international reserves. "The head of Finance, Rixi Moncada, explained that the financial action was carried out to cover the social program of the Executive, with the respective adjustment in the institutions."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/23/bch-anuncia-aprobacion-de-prestamo-de-mil-millones-de-dolares-al-ejecutivo/>

<https://proceso.hn/bch-aprueba-otros-mil-millones-de-dolares-de-reservas-internacionales-para-financiar-programas-sociales/>

The recent rains and following floods caused damage in Honduras. Infrastructure was destroyed leaving cut off 5000 maya-chortí families.

The Moskitia was also heavily affected.

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-cinco-mil-familias-maya-chorti-incomunicadas-por-danos-a-infraestructura/>

<https://proceso.hn/la-mosquitia-sigue-bajo-el-agua-sin-energia-electrica-y-claman-por-alimento-y-medicinas/>

In a joint press release, national and international human rights organization call on the Honduran Congress for a transparent selection process for the new Supreme Court judges.

<https://dplf.org/es/news/honduras-la-independencia-judicial-precisa-un-nuevo-marco-regulador-de-la-junta-nominadora>

<https://proceso.hn/ocho-organizaciones-piden-a-honduras-independencia-en-eleccion-de-magistrados/>

Gerardo Abraham Meza Henríquez, a lawyer from Juticalpa, was murdered yesterday.

<https://proceso.hn/asesinan-a-abogado-en-juticalpa-olancho/>

Honduran authorities seized goods worth some 40 million Lempiras linked to a drug trafficking network.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/operacion-zamora-105-aseguramientos-a-estructura-transnacional-de-trafico-de-drogas-a-quienes-ya-se-les-ha-quitado-mas-de-40-millones-de-lempiras-en-decomisos/>

Four members of the Armed Forces were sentenced to two years in prison for cruel and inhuman treatment of a young man in their detention.

<https://www.radiohrn.hn/sentencia-cuatro-militares-honduras-tratos-cruels-inhumanos-degradantes-contrahondureno-2022-06-23>

Since 2014, almost 100'000 Honduran children have been deported.

<https://criterio.hn/entre-2014-a-2022-han-deportado-96-mil-ninas-ninos-y-adolescentes-de-honduras/>

24/06/22

Honduras Daily: Military Police; Drug Trafficking; NGOs; Corruption - UFERCO, Transparency; IMF; Poverty; and the Least Likely Political Prisoner

There was a setback to the promised demilitarization of Honduras. The Xiomara administration announced to task the Military Police with fighting drug trafficking, i.e. the controversial unit won't be dissolved.

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-apuesta-por-conservar-la-policia-militar-brazo-armado-que-creo-regimen-de-joh/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/darle-tareas-de-lucha-contrael-narcotrafico-a-la-pmop-es-una-excusa-para-mantener-militarizada-la-sociedad-asegura-defensor-de-ddhh/>

US prosecutor demanded a life sentence for former Honduran congressman and drug trafficker Fredy Nájera. His defense proposed a 15-year sentence.

Meanwhile in Honduras, Norlan José "El Catracho" Carrasco López was detained, a Honduran wanted for extradition.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/defensa-fredy-najera-seria-injusto-imponerle-cadena-perpetua-NG8778807>

<https://proceso.hn/detienen-a-extraditible-hondureno-que-habia-sido-requerido-en-belice-con-narcoavioneta/>

"The Secretary of Governance and Justice, Tomás Vaquero, declared that more than seven thousand NGOs have not presented their financial liquidation, which are under investigation by the justice

operators. "Eight thousand 491 associations are currently registered, of which only one thousand 314 have regularized their 2021 financial situation by complying in time and form," he stated."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/24/gobernacion-denuncia-que-mas-de-siete-mil-oeneges-no-realizaron-liquidacion/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/senalan-que-de-un-total-de-8-mil-491-ons-unicamente-mil-314-estan-legales-en-el-pais/>

"The director of the Specialized Prosecutor Unit Against Corruption Networks (Uferco) of the Public Prosecutor's Office, Luis Javier Santos, in an exclusive interview with Criterio.hn, denounced that there are threats and attacks against anti-corruption prosecutors in addition to a smear campaign by sectors linked to corruption."

<https://criterio.hn/fiscal-luis-javier-santos-denuncia-amenazas-ataques-y-campana-contra-la-uferco-por-lucha-anticorrupcion/>

<https://criterio.hn/partido-nacional-y-colegio-de-periodistas-uniforman-su-discurso-en-contra-de-la-uferco/>

According to the Finance Ministry, the Secretariat for Transparency and the Fight against Corruption has now received its funding (see previously this week).

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/24/finanzas-asegura-que-ya-autorizo-transferencia-de-fondos-a-transparencia/>

A week of meetings with the IMF concluded yesterday. "Today at the closing meeting of the IMF tour, we reiterated that the primary objective of the Government is to faithfully implement the Government Plan, the firm commitment to reduce poverty, protect the vulnerable population, promote inclusive economic growth, and combat corruption."

<https://proceso.hn/finalizan-reuniones-entre-gobierno-y-delegacion-del-fmi-sobre-el-plan-de-gobierno/>

Consumer organizations denounce the rise of food prices.

<https://confidencialhn.com/mas-de-20-productos-de-la-canasta-basica-registran-aumento-esta-semana-adecabah/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/exembajador-eeuu-israel-pide-descartar-motivaciones-politicas-proceso-joh-narcotrafico-BL8782715>

25/06/22

Honduras Daily: Fuel Prices; Inflation; Corruption – Parlacen;

The Xiomara administration announced to freeze fuel prices for the coming four weeks.

FOSDEH criticizes that the price freeze came to late as the fuel prices are already too high for many Honduras.

The measure will cost 145 million Lempiras according to government estimates.

<https://confidencialhn.com/es-un-sacrificio-fuerte-del-gobierno-congelar-precio-de-la-gasolina-regular-y-diesel-asegura-hugo-noe-pino/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/fosdeh-critica-congelamiento-de-combustibles-en-el-momento-que-estos-alcanzaron-precios-muy-altos-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/de-145-millones-de-lempiras-sera-impacto-fiscal-por-congelamiento-de-combustibles/>

"To counter inflationary pressures in 2022, the Central Bank of Honduras has taken some measures, including withdrawing about 14 billion lempiras from the financial system's liquidity surpluses and reducing exchange rate volatility."

<https://confidencialhn.com/como-medida-para-contrarrestar-inflacion-bch-retira-l-14000-millones-de-excedentes-de-liquidez-del-sistema-financiero/>

<https://proceso.hn/bch-retira-l-14000-millones-de-excedentes-de-liquidez-del-sistema-financiero-como-medida-para-contrarrestar-inflacion/>

The Association for a More Just Society calls for a withdrawal of Honduras from the Central American Parliament (Parlacen) as it only serves as a refuge for corruption people.

<https://proceso.hn/presencia-de-honduras-en-parlamento-centroamericano-no-sirve-de-nada-segun-sociedad-civil-hondurena/>

27/06/22

Honduras Daily: Coup d'état; Lawyers; Violence; and It Wasn't US

With the 13th anniversary of the coup d'état coming closer, the Xiomara administration inaugurated Isy Obed square. The 19-year old Isis Obed Murillo was shot dead by state security forces on July 5, 2009 during an anti-coup protest.

The government additionally announced the Social Program to Attend the Families of the Martyrs of the Honduran Resistance.

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1540760019146260480>

<https://confidencialhn.com/hay-una-lista-de-muertos-durante-la-dictadura-que-vamos-a-develar-en-esta-placa-mel-zelaya-en-inauguracion-de-la-plaza-isy-obed/>

<https://proceso.hn/gobierno-anuncia-aprobacion-de-pcm-para-atencion-de-familia-martires-de-la-resistencia-en-honduras/>

The recent murder of lawyer Gerardo Meza was the fourth assassination of a lawyer this year in Honduras.

<https://proceso.hn/olancho-cortes-y-francisco-morazan-escenario-hostil-para-abogados-alerta-comisionado-de-ddhh/>

Four people were killed and one person hurt in San Pedro Sula. This was the 18th massacre this year.

In Tocoa, a man was killed in a shootout and another was heavily wounded, both were employees of the municipality and the one hurt is José María Flores, a Libre leader.

<https://proceso.hn/nueva-masacre-deja-al-menos-cuatro-muertos-en-zona-norte-de-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/violencia-otra-realidad-que-acecha-a-la-zona-norte-de-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/una-persona-muerta-y-un-dirigente-de-libre-herido-deja-un-tiroteo-en-la-ciudad-de-tocoa/>

<https://proceso.hn/las-ffaa-no-mantuvieron-a-joh-en-el-poder-fue-la-csj-y-los-politicos-defiende-exgeneral-maldonado-galeas/>

27/06/22

Honduras Daily: COPINH; Hydroelectricity; Corruption - UFERCO, UN, Invest-H; Migration; Transport Sector; Police; Inflation; Education; and a Worrisome Dengue Situation

COPINH published a press release on their recent meeting with president Xiomara and their plan for Justice for Berta and Lenca People.

"COPINH delivered a list of specific and concrete demands centered on three commitments:

The commitment to advance in the process of justice for our colleague Berta Isabel Cáceres Flores, National Heroine, as well as for the Lenca community of Río Blanco.

The compromise to take immediate measures for the elimination of territorial conflicts and the reduction of inequality and poverty of the Lenca people organized in COPINH.

The compromise of the State of Honduras to recognize the rights to land, territories and rights of indigenous communities in the realization of regulatory, administrative and legal changes for the comprehensive protection of the rights of indigenous peoples."

<https://copinh.org/2022/06/copinh-presents-proposals-for-justice-for-bertha-and-lenca-people-to-president-xiomara-castro/>

Tela held a town hall meeting in which it ratified a previous decision to be free of hydroelectric projects.

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1541554157148143617>

Last week, UFERCO presented a new corruption case involving current and former members of Congress. The Anti-Corruption Alliance welcomes this, but also raises concern that UFERCO has suffered attacks as a consequence of this new case. Additionally, witnesses have received death threats.

"The director of the Specialized Prosecutor Unit Against Corruption Networks (Uferco), Luis Javier Santos denounced death threats against witnesses and even prosecutors in the corruption case

against deputies of the National Party, while blaming the College of Journalists of Honduras (CPH) for the media campaign."

<https://confidencialhn.com/coalicion-anticorrupcion-se-solidariza-con-la-uferco-y-celebra-primera-accion-judicial-directa/>

https://twitter.com/CESPAD_HONDURAS/status/1541493057983434752

<https://criterio.hn/amenazan-a-muerte-a-testigos-en-el-caso-de-corrupcion-de-la-uferco-contradiputados-del-partido-nacional/>

"The election of the magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) is considered one of the determining factors for the functioning of the International Commission Against Impunity in Honduras (CICIH) in the event that its installation is agreed with the United Nations as a guarantee for the fight against corruption. Several analysts consider that the fight against corruption and impunity in the Central American nation will depend on the election of the 15 magistrates that make up the Judiciary, being the citizens a key element for its execution."

<https://criterio.hn/eleccion-de-magistrados-considerado-factor-determinante-para-funcionamiento-de-cicih/>

Former Invest-H director Marco Bográn has to remain in prison, a request to change this to house arrest was denied.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/rechazan-peticion-de-medidas-sustitutivas-a-marco-bogran/>

<https://proceso.hn/deniegan-cambio-de-medidas-al-exdirector-de-invest-h-marco-bogran>

"The United Nations (UN) urged the Honduran government once again on Monday to pass the immigration amnesty law and benefit migrants who are stranded in the Central American country for not being able to pay the administrative penalty imposed by the National Migration Institute (INM)."

<https://proceso.hn/onu-urge-nuevamente-a-honduras-a-aplicar-ammistia-migratoria/>

El Herald reports that the 2022 budget may be revised again to allow for complying with an agreement with the transport sector. The amount in question is 480 million Lempiras.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/presupuesto-sera-reformulado-para-cumplir-obligaciones-transportistas-honduras-aumento-tarifa-usuarios-EX8819327>

Two members of the police will face trial for attempted murder.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-contra-dos-policias-involucrados-en-intento-de-homicidio/>

Economic Development Minister Pedro Barquero stated that yearly inflation reached 9%.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/27/barquero-afirma-que-tasa-de-inflacion-interanual-es-de-nueve-porciento/>

"A report published by the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), places Honduras in the last places with little Internet access in Latin America, with only 20%, followed by Suriname with 19%, Guatemala with 15%, and Haiti with 4%. The Vice-Minister of Education, Marissela Figueroa, shares that the coronavirus sunk the educational sector, "it is a catastrophe because we have dropped, precisely because of that we are working and taking care of the matter". However, she disagrees with the theme given to the report because she considers that there are several factors that make it become the title, "it is not a single factor, there is poverty, but there was also a governmental co-responsibility that must be pointed out and condemned" she pointed out."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-en-catastrofe-educativa-segun-informe-de-unicef/>

Secretary of Health José Manuel Matheu raised alarm about an increase in dengue cases in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-registra-un-alarmante-aumento-en-casos-de-dengue/>

28/06/22

Honduras Daily: Coup d'état; COPINH - Gualcarque; Demilitarization; LGBTQ+; Indigenous Peoples; Reproductive Rights; Corruption; COVID-19; Migration; and Vice-Presidential Uncertainties

Honduras commemorated the 13th anniversary of the coup d'état, as many stated, for the first time Honduras is under a legitimate government since 2009.

OACNUDH called for guaranteeing the right to justice and non-repetition for the victims of the serious human rights violations that occurred during the 2009 coup d'état.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/es-co/component/k2/item/6147-primer-gobierno-legitimo-en-el-poder-despues-de-13-anos-del-golpe-de-estado-en-honduras>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/el-aniversario-del-golpe-de-estado-de-2009-no-es-un-hecho-anecdótico-es-un-acontecimiento-que-no-se-puede-olvidar/>

<https://proceso.hn/zelaya-recuerda-13-anos-del-golpe-de-estado-ahora-como-asesor-de-su-esposa/>

<https://oacnudh.hn/oacnudh-llama-a-garantizar-el-derecho-a-la-justicia-y-no-repeticion-para-las-victimas-de-las-graves-violaciones-de-derechos-humanos-ocurridas-en-el-marco-del-golpe-de-estado-de-2009/>

"Today, June 28, 2022, 13 years after the 2009 coup d'état, COPINH, together with the daughters and son of Berta Cáceres, filed a criminal complaint with the Dutch Attorney General's office against the Dutch bank, FMO, and its directors for the crimes of complicity in acts of corruption, embezzlement, money laundering and violence in their financing of the Agua Zarca Project of the Atala Zablah family. This legal action aims to unmask the criminal actions of the supposed "development" and "green" banks such as FMO, which with their money finance corruption, violence and the violation of human rights of indigenous communities by multimillionaire bankers such as the Atalas."

<https://copinh.org/2022/06/copinh-files-a-criminal-complaint-against-the-dutch-bank-fmo-for-complicity-in-corruption-embezzlement-money-laundering-and-violence/>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1541829161676935173?s=20&t=9TDaOs29SDgoAchs6jvw3g>

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/family-slain-honduran-activist-seeks-criminal-probe-into-dutch-lender-2022-06-28/>

The ongoing existence of the Military Police is a heavy setback to the promised demilitarization agenda of the Xiomara administration (see last week). Criterio now reports that the agricultural sector also remains militarized.

<https://criterio.hn/el-engano-del-comando-agricola-ante-un-falso-clamor-de-agricultores/>

The head of the National Party in Congress, Tomás Zambrano, is denounced for anti-LGBTQ+ hate speech.

<https://tiempo.hn/tomas-zambrano-tuit-comunidad-lgbti/>

Evangelical priest Roy Santos faces criminal charges for discrimination. He called indigenous people "satanic shamans".

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/presentan-requerimiento-fiscal-contra-pastor-roy-santos-operacion-nemesis-vi-pueblos-indigenas-CI8831501>

"While in France the Cannes Lions International Festival awarded the agency Ogilvy and the Grupo Estratégico por la Pastilla Anticonceptiva de Emergencia (GE-PAE) for a campaign in favor of repealing the ban on ECP in Honduras, the national scenario is complicated by the possibility of the approval of ECP only in cases of sexual assault."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/28/cannes-premia-campana-a-favor-de-la-aprobacion-de-la-pae-en-honduras/>

Criterio reports on the promised impeachment of both Attorney General Óscar Chinchilla and the president of the Supreme Court Rolando Argueta and why it has not gone anywhere.

<https://criterio.hn/juicio-politico-contra-rolando-argueta-y-oscar-chinchilla-queda-en-las-expectativas-de-un-discurso/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/28/fiscalia-presentara-requerimiento-contra-pastor-santos-el-aqueja-persecucion/>

Medical experts warn about an increase in COVID-19 cases straining medical services.

"The Observatory of COVID-19 of the Central American Technological University (Unitec) warned that an increase in the number of cases, hospitalizations and severe cases of this disease is being reported. They also warn of an increase in lethality from 0.17 to 0.45%, positivity increased in June by 114% compared to May."

<https://confidencialhn.com/video-abarrotadas-se-encuentran-salas-covid-19-del-seguro-social/>

<https://proceso.hn/observatorio-de-unitec-alerta-de-aumento-de-casos-y-hospitalizaciones-por-covid-en-honduras/>

Among the 51 migrants who died in San Antonio, Texas, at least four were Hondurans.

<https://proceso.hn/serian-cuatro-los-hondurenos-fallecidos-en-un-camion-en-texas-segun-canciller-reina/>

<https://criterio.hn/excluida-la-funcion-de-los-designados-presidenciales-de-honduras/>

29/06/22

Honduras Daily: Judicial Power; ZEDEs; Drug Trafficking - US; Migration - US; SOUTHCOM; Lawyers; and the Democratization of Honduras

"The UN representative in Honduras, Alice Shackelford, said Wednesday that they are concerned that a clear message is not being handled in the National Congress regarding the election of new judges of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ). "It is urgent that Congress makes a clear decision, we know that they are in recess, but times are short and we are also concerned that the draft of the proposed law that the United Nations supported with the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is still unclear," she said."

Libre congressional vice-president Rasel Tomé states that there is still enough time to approve the law.

<https://proceso.hn/congreso-tiene-que-dar-un-mensaje-claro-en-eleccion-de-magistrados-de-csj-expresa-representante-de-onu/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/29/tome-asegura-que-hay-tiempo-para-aprobar-la-ley-de-la-junta-nominadora/>

UFERCO conducted an inspection at the INE as part of an investigations into the ZEDEs.

ZEDE Próspera, meanwhile, continues to claim that they will continue to be present in Honduras at least 50 years.

https://twitter.com/MP_Honduras/status/1542334410888019971

<https://criterio.hn/prospera-no-cede-e-insiste-que-tiene-garantizado-50-anos-de-permanencia/>

The sentencing of Fredy Nájera in the US for drug trafficking has once again been postponed, this time to July 29.

<https://proceso.hn/sentencia-a-exdiputado-fredy-najera-pospuesta-ahora-para-el-29-de-julio/>

The number of Honduran migrants who died in the back of a truck in Texas rose to 14 (see yesterday).

President Xiomara called it an assassination.

As a response, the US, Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras created a joint task force to combat human trafficking.

<https://criterio.hn/a-14-asciende-hondurenos-migrantes-fallecidos-dentro-de-trailer-en-san-antonio-texas/>

<https://eliberador.hn/2022/06/29/onu-exige-investigacion-por-tragedia-de-migrantes-en-texas-14-hondurenos-entre-victimas/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/de-asesinato-tilda-presidenta-xiomara-castro-la-tragedia-migrante-en-texas/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/eeuu-mexico-guatemala-y-honduras-crean-grupo-contra-el-trafico-de-personas/>

SOUTHCOM commander Laura Jane Richardson visited Honduras and met with Xiomara.

<https://proceso.hn/la-presidenta-de-honduras-se-reune-con-la-jefa-del-comando-sur-de-eeuu/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/jefa-del-comando-sur-de-los-estados-unidos-laura-richardson-visita-nuevamente-honduras/>

<https://twitter.com/Southcom/status/1542192916776484865>

<https://twitter.com/Southcom/status/1542276900546117632>

"The lawyers' profession is one of the most affected by violence and crime in Honduras, a country that in the last year alone, 2021, registered 3,931 homicides. According to the National Human Rights Commissioner (Conadeh), more than 200 of these professionals died violently between 2004 and 2022. And, even more worrying, over 90% of these cases remain unpunished."

<https://criterio.hn/impunidad-y-sistemas-de-proteccion-fallidos-alientan-crime-contrabogados-en-honduras/>

"Thirteen years after the coup d'état against former President José Manuel Zelaya Rosales (2006-2009), writer Julio Escoto, analyst and prominent member of the resistance against the coup, says it is important that the current government begins a process of democratization without falling into the leftist rhetoric of the 1940s, or falling into the - common - way of doing politics with promises that cannot be fulfilled."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/06/29/julio-escoto-la-constituyente-en-este-momento-no-es-realizable-debe-haber-un-proceso-de-educacion-de-largo-plazo/>

30/06/22

Honduras Daily: HR - UN; Reproductive Rights; Corruption - Hermes; ZEDEs; Campesinos; Labor Rights; Southcom - HR; Police; Child Labor; Poverty; Migration; Extortion; and a Stop to Carbon Markets

Human Rights Watch sent an open letter to President Xiomara highlighting the need for reforms to provide greater protection for fundamental rights and the rule of law after "years of setbacks since the 2009 coup".

<https://confidencialhn.com/human-rights-watch-envia-carta-a-xiomara-castro-para-que-adopte-reformas-para-proteger-los-derechos-tras-golpe-de-estado/>

<https://www.hrw.org/es/news/2022/06/30/honduras-agenda-de-derechos-humanos-para-el-gobierno-de-la-presidenta-castro>

UN Resident Coordinator Alice H. Shackelford met with Congressional President Luis Redondo to discuss human rights, sustainable development and peace.

<https://twitter.com/aliceshackel/status/1542702877721993217>

The Guardian reports on the harsh abortion ban in Honduras. "In Honduras, where more than 66% of the population lives in poverty, it is the poorest women who pay the highest price for the country's draconian abortion laws, among the strictest in the world. The state's control over women's reproductive health is almost absolute. Abortion in Honduras is illegal in all circumstances, including rape and incest. Abortions are not allowed to save a woman's life or when the foetus can't survive outside the womb. Emergency contraception – the morning-after pill – is also banned."

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/jun/30/i-couldnt-have-the-baby-honduras-poor-suffer-most-from-draconian-abortion-laws>

Seven accused in an important UFERCO corruption case, Hermes, will be sent to trial.

The National Party is not amused.

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1542646060220301315

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/30/diputado-desmiente-ser-promotor-de-requerimientos-fiscales-contra-periodistas/>

El Pulso and Criterio report on the recent investigation into the ZEDEs by UFERCO at the National Statistics Institute (see yesterday).

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/30/uferco-realiza-decomiso-de-informacion-en-el-ine-sobre-instalacion-de-las-zedes/>

<https://criterio.hn/uferco-abre-investigacion-sobre-instalacion-de-las-zede-en-honduras/>

Radio Progreso reports on an important first victory before court for the Nueva Palestina community from Marcala, La Paz. The judge nullified the eviction from their land. The legal process continues as 31 indigenous campesinos are still being criminalized.

<https://radioprogresohn.net/portada/juez-deja-sin-valor-desalojo-contracomunidad-indigena-nuevapalestina/>

According to Libre congressman Rassel Tomé, the repeal of the Employment by the Hour Law means that the Constitution as well as the Labor Code grant all Honduran workers the same rights.

<https://confidencialhn.com/finalizo-la-vacatio-legis-de-la-ley-del-empleo-por-hora-y-todo-estara-regulado-por-el-codigo-de-trabajo-y-la-constitucion-rasel-tome/>

As part of her visit to Honduras, Southcom commander Laura J. Richardson (see yesterday) promised US support for the modernization of the Honduran Armed Forces.

<https://confidencialhn.com/estados-unidos-confirma-apoyo-para-la-modernizacion-de-las-fuerzas-armadas-de-honduras/>

"Last Thursday night a group of young people were attacked by military elements when they were driving from the community of Zarabanda to take a walk to the municipality of Santa Lucía, Francisco Morazán."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/siguen-los-abusos-de-las-fuerzas-militares-hacia-la-poblacion-hondurena/>

Two police agents will be sent to prison for abuse of authority, they beat a young man in 2015.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/fiscalia-de-derechos-humanos-logra-auto-de-formal-prision-para-dos-policias-preventivos/>

Child labor has almost doubled in Honduras to 1 million children since 2020 as a consequence of the two hurricanes and the pandemic.

<https://confidencialhn.com/casi-un-millon-de-ninos-trabaja-en-honduras-por-la-pandemia-y-tormentas/>

The head of the Secretariat for Social Development (Sedesol), José Carlos Cardona, explains the difference between the new Solidarity Network (Red Solidaria) social program and the former Better Life program (programa Vida Mejor) under JOH.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/06/30/sedesol-explica-que-la-red-solidaria-no-es-igual-al-programa-vida-mejor/>

Defensores en Línea report on the ever increasingly difficult situation in El Paraíso where more than 200 migrants enter Honduras in search of the US.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/la-migracion-en-el-paraiso-llego-a-los-peores-escenarios/>

Reporteros de Investigación reports on the use of false positives in the fight against extortion in Honduras. According to their investigation, security forces received a bonus for each person captured.

<https://reporterosdeinvestigacion.com/2022/06/30/para-evitar-asesinato-de-testigos-corte-de-ny-protege-datos-en-juicio-del-presidente-de-honduras/>

The Honduran government put a stop to the selling of carbon credits based on the Honduran forest.

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1542542757310390274>