

01/09/22

Honduras Daily: WHRDs; LGBTQ+; Corruption - UN, UFERCO, Conatel; CNDS; Economy; Deforestation - EU; and Honoring the Work of Padre Melo

"Women defenders are subjected to threats of sexual violence, as well as attacks directed against the lives of the defenders and their children. The perpetrators are State institutions and unknown persons, according to a survey conducted by UNHCR, UN Women, TROCAIRE and the National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH), through five civil society organizations, according to a survey conducted by these agencies through the ProDefensoras Honduras project."

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/contexto-honduras/101-senala-encuesta-amenazas-contra-defensoras-de-ddhh-es-para-silenciar-sus-voces-y-apartarlas-de-escenarios-de-liderazgo>

"In the mental health system in Honduras there are recurrent experiences of discrimination against LGTBIQ+ people, in which some professionals in this field qualify sexual orientation, gender identity and expression as abnormal and immoral deviations, so it is urgent to create an exclusive psychological care program for this vulnerable sector in Honduras".

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/denuncia/102-urge-creacion-de-programa-de-atencion-psicologica-exclusivo-para-personas-lgtbiq-en-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/demandan-generar-inclusion-en-la-atencion-de-la-salud-mental-para-personas-lgtbiq/>

Representatives of the Xiomara administration continue to call for the installation of a CICIH, while at the same time holding back on giving it full powers. "In this sense, the Honduran Foreign Minister, who has been leading the talks for the coming of the mechanism with the UN, said that "there has to be a balance; it has to be a strong CICIH, but at the same time respecting the Constitution, the separation of powers and the monopoly of criminal action"."

"The International Commission Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (CICH) can come to help in the investigations, but not to accuse, said the secretary of the National Congress, Carlos Zelaya."

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-quiere-una-cicih-equilibrada-y-respetuosa-de-la-constitucion-dice-canciller-enrique-reina/>

<https://proceso.hn/la-cicih-puede-venir-a-ayudar-en-las-investigaciones-pero-no-acusar-carlos-zelaya/>

"The Specialized Prosecutor Unit Against Corruption Networks (UFERCO) will file an appeal against the resolution of a natural judge that releases from criminal responsibility a congressman, four former congressmen and others involved in a series of fraudulent operations of two Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in the National Congress."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/02/uferco-apelara-resolucion-judicial-que-ordena-archivar-caso-y-sobreseer-a-implicados-en-operaciones-fraudulentas-entre-ongs-y-cn/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/uferco-apelara-resolucion-judicial-que-ordena-archivar-caso-y-sobreseer-a-implicados-en-operaciones-fraudulentas-entre-ongs-y-cn/>

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1565533619241848832

"Officials of the National Unit of Fiscal Support (UNAF) and the Technical Agency of Criminal Investigation (ATIC) carried out the seizure of documentation at the National Telecommunications Commission (Conatel) in relation to the investigation of a millionaire trust. (...) He specified that in the case of Conatel it is investigated that in 2014, a trust of 400 million lempiras was received and was carried out because there were also complaints that the funds were misused."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/01/fiscalia-investiga-manejo-de-fideicomiso-de-400-millones-de-lempiras-en-conatel/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/unaf-recibe-documentacion-de-conatel-en-relacion-a-investigacion-de-millonario-fideicomiso/>

The National Defense and Security Council (CNDS) met for the first time under the Xiomara administration.

During the meeting, they appointed the new director and deputy deputy director of the National Directorate of Investigation and Intelligence, Commissioners Raúl Mejía and Ángel Josué Luque, respectively.

At the same time, the discussions about the reform of the CNDS Law continue.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/todos-integrantes-cnnds-atendieron-llamado-xiomara-castro-NI9846483>

<https://proceso.hn/con-presencia-de-mel-se-reune-el-cnnds-y-nombran-titulares-de-direccion-de-inteligencia/>

<https://criterio.hn/nueva-ley-consejo-de-defensa-y-seguridad-considerada-un-avance-democratico-que-requiere-enmiendas/>

Proceso Digital reports on the development of foreign direct investment (FDI) in Honduras. There has been a substantial decrease during the last years of the JOH regime. So far this year, it is up again by 15%.

<https://proceso.hn/alerta-por-el-deterioro-en-la-inversion-extranjera/>

"Today marks the entry into force of the EU–Honduras voluntary partnership agreement (VPA) on forest law enforcement, governance and trade (FLEGT). This trade agreement aims to provide a legally binding framework that ensures that all timber and relevant timber products imported from Honduras to the EU are legally sourced. It also aims to strengthen the enforcement of forest law, governance, accountability and transparency in Honduras."

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/eu-honduras-agreement-reduce-illegal-timber-logging-and-associated-trade-enters-force-2022-09-01_en

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/01/historico-honduras-primer-pais-en-firmar-acuerdo-contra-tala-ilegal/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/este-premio-no-me-callara-la-boca-padre-melo/>

02/09/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Impunity; Corruption - Congress, COPECO; CNDS; Judicial Power; and the Case of Angie Peña

"The Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH) reiterated to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) that in order to achieve true justice, it is necessary to investigate the intellectual authors of the murder of Berta Cáceres and the cancellation of the illegal concession on the Gualcarque River."

<https://criterio.hn/copinh-reitera-a-cidh-necesidad-de-investigar-a-autores-intelectuales-del-crimen-contra-bertha-caceres/>

El Libertador and Criterio have more on the recent dismissal of corruption charges against 14 people, among them 5 former and current Nationalist members of Congress. UFERCO challenged the ruling (see yesterday).

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/02/uferco-se-rebela-contra-la-corte-por-libertad-de-cachurecos/>

<https://criterio.hn/ultima-resolucion-judicial-que-favorece-a-diputados-y-exdiputados-corruptos-desnuda-nuevamente-la-impunidad/>

"The Special Prosecutor's Office for Transparency and Combating Public Corruption (FETCCOP) was notified this Friday of the resolution of the Anticorruption Court of Appeals that confirms the indictment issued last June 20 to three former officials of the Permanent Contingency Commission (COPECO) and a businessman, accused of alleged irregular acts committed in the framework of the COVID-19 pandemic."

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

Radio Progreso published an important analysis of Leticia Salomón on the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS). "Apparently, a draft bill on a matter of the Executive power inserted in the effort to dismantle the scaffolding of authoritarianism and impunity set up by the previous government, should not have suffered the inconveniences faced by the famous Defense and Security Law sent by the Executive power for consideration and approval in the National Congress. The law was trapped in a network of questions, some valid and others absurd, which have to do with a regrettable lack of democratic political culture in our political actors, which implies ignorance of defense and security issues, and of essential values such as pluralism, tolerance and respect for those who are and think differently."

<https://radioprogressohn.net/leticia-salomon/y-sigue-la-ley-del-consejo-de-defensa-y-seguridad-atrapada-entre-cinicos-confundidos-novatos-y-serviles/>

Human rights defender and social activist Tomás Andino spoke with ConexiHon about the current Supreme Court and the election which will replace it. "Even today, when it no longer has the support of former President JOH, because he is in prison in New York, the current CSJ continues to be the bottleneck for the current administration to solve problems that require its assistance and, even worse, it has enough power to invalidate government initiatives. Finally, both the current CSJ

and the Public Prosecutor's Office, both elected during the narco-dictator's term of office, have served to perpetuate the state of impunity in which the Honduran justice system finds itself due to their ineffectiveness and partiality. (...) The new magistrates cannot repeat the shameful role played by their current counterparts. They must have not only a great professional capacity, given by great knowledge, experience and ability to perform, but also have a great ethical stature, love for their country, vocation of service and attitude to be transparent in all their actions. I am sure there are Honduran men and women who meet these requirements."

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/transparencia/2018-andino-en-la-eleccion-de-la-nueva-csj-no-cabe-la-manipulacion>

<https://proceso.hn/el-enigma-de-angie/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/02/viceministra-de-seguridad-pide-a-csj-no-trasladar-caso-de-angie-a-roatan-porque-autoridades-estan-coludidas/>

03/11/22

Honduras Daily: HR-Situation; Corruption - CICIH, 911; Femicides; Elections - Transparency; Inflation; and This is Not Your Flag

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

foro_honduras_suiza@riseup.net

https://honduras-forum.ch/?smd_process_download=1&download_id=46138

Vice-president Doris Gutiérrez joins the plethora of voices commenting on the CICIH and what powers it should have. According to her, it should be more powerful than the MACCIH, but respecting the constitution so that a constitutional reform would not be needed. The latter leaves open room for interpretation if the CICIH should have prosecutorial powers.

<https://proceso.hn/la-cicoh-deberia-tener-mas-funciones-que-la-maccih-pero-sin-contravenir-la-constitucion-doris-gutierrez/>

"The National Emergency System 911 reported the interruption in its operations by the intermediary that provides the security camera surveillance system. The company Dynamic Corporation, partners

of David Chavez, president of the National Party, refuses, according to the Government, to renegotiate the damaging contract which represents an expenditure of more than US\$ 1.8 million."

<https://criterio.hn/socios-de-david-chavez-se-aduenaron-de-operaciones-del-911/>

Only 0.06% of the femicides of this year are so far being prosecuted.

"Women's rights organizations and feminists are waiting for the new Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) not to be blind to crimes against women and other vulnerable populations, and for a team of 15 magistrates committed to confront and punish femicides and aggressors, changing the bad practices of the past Court."

<https://proceso.hn/impunidad-en-muerte-de-mujeres-el-talon-de-aquiles-de-la-justicia-hondurena/>

<https://criterio.hn/feministas-demandan-una-nueva-corte-que-castigue-la-violencia-de-genero/>

"The president commissioner of the Clean Politics Unit, German Espinal said this Saturday that a sanctioning process is being prepared for 1,600 candidates who did not comply with the financial report."

<https://proceso.hn/un-total-de-mil-600-candidatos-a-cargos-publicos-no-cumplieron-con-la-ley-de-politica-limpia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/03/unos-1800-politicos-seran-sancionados-por-no-presentar-su-informe-financiero-de-campana-electoral/>

After 26 months straight of inflation, prices in Honduras for the first time decreased again, by 0.03%.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/03/bch-senala-que-la-inflacion-en-agosto-de-2022-fue-negativa-luego-de-26-meses-de-alzas/>

<https://criterio.hn/zede-prospera-irrespetta-voluntad-del-soberano-y-usa-simbolo-patrio-para-campana-de-manipulacion/>

04/09/22

Honduras Daily: Corruption - CICIH, US; Tegucigalpa - Water; Supreme Court; and Children Taking Over Congress

COHEP joined the debate about the powers of an eventual CICIH. Their legal advisor Rafael Jerez stated that the MP must preserve the exercise of public criminal prosecution respecting the constitution. This aligns with recent statements by the Xiomara administration. Additionally, Jerez said that a CICIH must work as an "adhesive prosecutor" which would mean a reform to the new Penal Code, something that is already in the works.

Another obstacle for the CICIH is the legislative decree 116-2019, which needs to be repealed. "However, this controversial decree, which, among other things, allows deputies, municipal corporations, public and decentralized institutions, and NGOs to receive funds from the Executive Branch, violating the independence of powers and hindering the Public Prosecutor's Office to carry out requirements against these entities, has not been scheduled for repeal in the National Congress."

<https://proceso.hn/iniciativa-privada-a-favor-de-una-cicoh-que-preserve-la-accion-penal-del-ministerio-publico/>

<https://criterio.hn/vigencia-del-decreto-116-2019-mantiene-en-duda-llegada-de-la-cicoh-a-honduras/>

"The United States certified that the government of President Xiomara Castro has made significant progress in the fight against corruption, the promotion of transparency and respect for human rights."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/estados-unidos-certifica-honduras-combate-contracorruccion-EG9877644>

"The mayor of the capital, Jorge Aldana, announced this Sunday that the Central District will have three new dams to solve the lack of the vital liquid."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/04/el-distrito-central-contara-con-tres-nuevas-represas-alcaldede-jorge-aldana/>

"The Center for the Study of Democracy (CESPAD), presented the report: "Prospective political analysis on the election of the next Supreme Court of Justice in Honduras. The opportunity for civil society organizations to influence the process", with the objective of providing an overview of the situation of the Judiciary in the current context, as well as recommendations for the election of the Supreme Court of Justice in January 2023."

<https://cespad.org.hn/cespad-presenta-informe-prospectivo-sobre-la-eleccion-de-la-proxima-corte-suprema-de-justicia-en-honduras/>

https://twitter.com/CN_InfantilHN/status/1566569617585328128

05/09/22

Honduras Daily: Indigenous Peoples; Corruption - Extractivism; Femicide; Violence; Health Care; CNDS; IACHR;

Honduras commemorated yesterday the International Day of the Indigenous Woman.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1566911183483019264>

Lucía Vijil Saybe analyzes "extractive corruption" for CESPAD.

<https://cespad.org.hn/la-corrupcion-extractiva-y-su-importancia-en-el-debate-nacional/>

MSF reports on their work on reproductive healthcare in Honduras and the challenges they face. "There is a large gap in terms of access to sexual and reproductive health for the entire community, but the need is greater for adolescents. They do not have a place where they can go and where they are treated without being stigmatised, without the influence of religion, or without an accusing finger. Adolescents do not have a point of reference for much-needed information."

<https://www.msf.org/addressing-dangerous-gap-sexual-and-reproductive-healthcare-honduras>

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-no-tiene-derechos-sexuales-ni-reproductivos/>

Women's rights organizations propose the creation of "an Inter-institutional Commission on violent deaths of women and femicides composed of the Ministry of Security, Human Rights, National Police, Public Prosecutor's Office, National Commissioner for Human Rights and organized women, seek mechanisms to strengthen the attention in cases of missing women and girls in the country".

<https://criterio.hn/anuncian-comision-interinstitucional-para-frenar-la-desaparicion-de-mujeres-en-honduras/>

50% of the victims of homicide in Honduras are below 30 years old.

<https://criterio.hn/el-50-de-las-muertes-en-honduras-son-jovenes-menores-de-30-anos/>

"The Secretary of the Legislative, Carlos Zelaya, expressed that the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS) bill will be submitted for debate until the required votes for its approval are obtained."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/05/ley-de-cnnds-sera-sometida-a-debate-hasta-contar-con-los-votos-afirma-secretario-del-legislativo/>

"The government committed to comply with the recommendations and follow up on cases of human rights violations in Honduras, informed the Minister of the Presidency, Rodolfo Pastor de María. The official referred to the protocol visit made by a delegation of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) in Honduras."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/05/el-ministro-de-la-presidencia-el-gobierno-se-comprometio-en-cumplir-con-las-recomendaciones-de-cidh/>

06/09/22

Honduras Daily: LGBTQ+; Extractivism - Corruption, Escazú; Corruption - US, CICIH, Judicial Power, JOH; National Party; Poverty - Child Labor; Agriculture; ENEE; Transport Sector; CNDS; and Golpistas Defending Democracy...

The first regional forum on justice without impunity for the LGBTQ+ community took place yesterday in Tegucigalpa.

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-esta-obligada-a-investigar-con-etica-y-celeridad-las-muertes-violentas-de-la-poblacion-lgbtiq/>

I forgot to link to the CESPAD article on "extractive corruption" yesterday.

<https://cespad.org.hn/la-corrupcion-extractiva-y-su-importancia-en-el-debate-nacional/>

Criterio spoke with Berta Zúniga Cáceres, general coordinator of COPINH, about why Honduras needs to ratify the Escazú Agreement. "[T]his would guarantee reparations for those who have

suffered from extractivist violence, access to justice and the demand for the respect of fundamental rights."

<https://criterio.hn/acuerdo-de-escazu-garantizaria-reparacion-para-quienes-sufren-violencia-del-modelo-extractivista-bertha-zuniga/>

A Honduran delegation led by Foreign Minister Enrique Reina and the Secretary of the President Rodolfo Pastor de María met with Richard Nephew in Vienna, the US Coordinator on Global Anti-Corruption.

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1567213507128565761>

<https://proceso.hn/hay-avances-en-combate-a-la-corrupcion-pero-la-cicih-sigue-siendo-una-urgencia-pastor-de-maria/>

CESPAD published a report on the where Honduras is at regarding the installation of a CICIH.

<https://cespad.org.hn/donde-estamos-con-la-cicih-rendicion-de-cuentas-y-mayor-participacion-ciudadana-factores-claves/>

"The president of the National Congress, Luis Redondo, on Tuesday asked the Public Prosecutor's Office to accuse judges he considers to be acting outside the law."

<https://proceso.hn/redondo-pide-al-ministerio-publico-acusar-a-jueces-y-magistrados-del-tsc/>

"The Judicial Power announced that an anti-corruption criminal court has received an indictment against four former officials of the previous government for violation of the duties of public officials, fraud and falsification of public documents."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/06/fiscalia-presenta-requerimiento-a-varios-exfuncionarios-por-presunta-corrupcion/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/06/urgente-libran-orden-de-arresto-para-funcionarios-de-joh/>

The National Party requested the inscription of Ana García de Hernández, JOH's wife, as an alternate deputy to the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN).

<https://criterio.hn/esposa-de-juan-orlando-hernandez-nominada-a-ser-diputada-suplente-al-parlacen/>

Over 250'000 children work in Honduras among them 140'000 in dangerous work situation.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/06/mas-de-250-mil-ninos-se-dedican-al-trabajo-infantil-en-honduras/>

"Representatives of the National Bank for Agricultural Development (Banadesa) indicated that they are placing more than 500 million lempiras in loans to encourage agriculture in the country."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/06/banadesa-destina-mas-de-1500-millones-para-desarrollar-el-agro/>

"Dante Mossi, president of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), said this Tuesday that they have a credit portfolio of some 600 million dollars available to rescue the National Electric Energy Company (ENEE)."

<https://proceso.hn/bcie-cuenta-con-una-cartera-crediticia-de-600-millones-para-rescatar-la-enee-dice-dante-mossi/>

The transport sector announced an increase in fare prices and in response the Honduran Institute of Land Transportation (IHTT) warned of fines and seizure of transport units for those who increase the price of fares.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/06/transportistas-anuncian-tomas-y-aumento-al-pasaje-por-incumplimiento-de-los-acuerdos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/06/habra-decomiso-de-unidades-y-multas-si-aumentan-a-la-tarifa-no-se-permitira-ningun-incremento-ihtt/>

The fate of the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS) is still unknown as the debate in Congress is stalled.

<https://criterio.hn/de-consensos-entre-libre-partido-liberal-y-psh-dependera-aprobacion-de-nueva-ley-del-cnds/>

<https://criterio.hn/rostros-del-golpismo-y-militares-en-retiro-crean-frente-defensor-de-la-democracia-en-honduras/>

07/09/22

Honduras Daily: Extractivism - Escazú; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Corruption - Mobile Hospitals, Invest-H; Armed Forces - US; Austria; Prisons; and 911

OACNUDH and the EU invited to a forum on the Escazú Agreement and how it could help in building environmental justice. SO far, the Xiomara administration has not signed the agreement.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHNN/status/1567637397256474625>

<https://proceso.hn/acuerdo-de-escazu-oportunidad-para-lograr-la-justicia-ambiental-en-honduras/>

"The documents in the case of the former chief of the National Police, Juan Carlos "El Tigre" Bonilla will remain protected and his next hearing was scheduled for January 10, 2023. This was made known to EL HERALDO through the document of the Court of the Southern District of New York that was published this Wednesday and was signed by Judge Kevin Castel."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/juez-kevin-castel-aprueba-orden-proteccion-documentos-juan-carlos-el-tigre-bonilla-XK9950990>

The MP filed charges against the former Secretary of Risk Management and National Contingencies, Copeco, Gabriel Rubí, the former Vice Minister of Health, Nery Cerrato, the former administrator of Copeco, Cristian Santeli, and the legal representative in Honduras of the company DLX Enterprises LLC, Mirna Luz Romero. The case is linked to the bigger mobile hospital corruption case.

Both Gabriel Rubí and Nery Cerrat were allowed to await his corruption trial outside of prison.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/rubi-y-cerrato-se-confabularon-para-defraudar-al-fisco-cna/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/07/en-libertad-se-defendera-gabriel-rubi-exministro-de-copeco-acusado-de-fraude-y-violacion-de-los-deberes-de-los-funcionarios/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/gabriel-rubi-otra-vez-al-banquillo-de-los-acusados/>

It was made public that a former member of the Invest-H invention board received more than 1 million Lempiras while at the same time being absent from work due to medical reason.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/07/exinterventor-de-invest-h-cobro-mas-de-un-millon-de-lempiras-sin-trabajar/>

"The Minister of Defense, José Manuel Zelaya, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces, José Jorge Fortín, and the Honduran Ambassador to Washington, Javier Bú, met at the Pentagon with Daniel P. Erikson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Western Hemisphere Affairs at the United States (US) Department of Defense, to discuss bilateral issues."

<https://proceso.hn/ministro-de-defensa-y-jefe-de-las-ffaa-se-reunen-con-el-subsecretario-de-defensa-de-eeuu/>

"Foreign Minister Eduardo Enrique Reina and his Austrian counterpart, Alexander Schallenberg, signed the Memorandum of Understanding "The Mechanism for Political Consultations between Honduras and Austria" which will allow, in the coming months, the establishment of meetings to address issues of human resources, clean energy, health, nuclear technology for development, and human rights."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/07/honduras-firma-memorandum-de-entendimiento-con-austria/>

In an effort to tackle the overpopulation in Honduras' prisons, the Xiomara administration has so far granted amnesty to 1700 inmates. ""We now have 1,700 inmates in the pre-release process, and each month a group will be released. These people have already served their sentences and were forgotten by private and public lawyers, unfortunately".

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/07/unos-1700-presos-comunes-se-liberaran-bajo-las-garantias-procesales-de-la-amnistia/>

Last week, it was made public that a private company meant to offer security camera services to the 911 emergency system used its powerful position to demand the payment of an alleged outstanding debt. The company belongs to a close ally of JOH and now El Tiempo reports that the initial contract signed under the JOH regime was hidden by the same actors using the Secrecy Law.

<https://tiempo.hn/contrato-del-911-protegido-ley-de-secretos/>

08/09/22

Honduras Daily: Ahuas Massacre; Corruption; Children - Migration, Education; Public Health; Drinking Water; and JOH's 15 Horses

"The Drug War Cover-Up is a 3-part series that describes the events surrounding the 2012 Ahuas massacre & a deadly DEA-led drug interdiction operation in Honduras".

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1567879603137482752>

The JOH regime had put many obstacles in place for effectively fighting corruption. The Supreme Audit Court (TSC) denounced that they are still not allowed to hand over their reports to the MP due to decree 116-2019 and calls for a meeting between the TSC, MP and Congress to resolve this.

Criterio writes that the repeal of the decree has also been called for by the UN in preparation of a possible CICIH.

<https://proceso.hn/tsc-dice-a-redondo-que-no-puede-entregar-documentacion-al-mp-porque-sigue-vigente-decreto-116-2019-que-lo-prohibe/>

<https://criterio.hn/en-el-congreso-nadie-habla-de-la-derogacion-del-decreto-116-2019/>

"The executive director of the Coordinating Network of Private Institutions for Children, Adolescents, Youth and their Rights (COIPRODEN), Wilmer Vásquez who informed Criterio.hn that there are approximately 12,528 children who have been deported so far this year, surpassing last year's figures which closed with 12,194 which means that there is an increase of 60%. Vasquez added that since 2014 to date more than 100,000 children have been deported to the country. "To us it calls our attention that according to the origin 8,015 Honduran children were deported from the United States, 4,091 from Mexico and 123 from Guatemala so far this year, the most worrying thing for us is that 3,433 of all these children were traveling alone"."

<https://criterio.hn/ninas-y-ninos-hondurenos-son-victimas-de-multiples-delitos-en-la-ruta-migratoria/>

"The fact that Honduran children do not enjoy the full right to education is a reality that is worsening due to a wide range of factors, from poverty, crime, violence, insecurity, lack of opportunities, poor quality education, exclusion in the opening of careers, agree specialists in the field of education."

<https://criterio.hn/ninez-excluida-desercion-escolar-en-honduras-causada-por-la-pobreza-y-falta-de-oportunidades/>

The president of the Medical Association of Honduras (CMH) Helga Codina warned about the ongoing lack of drugs in Honduras' health system.

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-del-colegio-medico-advierde-que-desabastecimiento-en-hospitales-se-traducira-en-muertes/>

"At least 92 of the 298 municipalities in Honduras have privatized the drinking water service through a scheme in which banks of the national financial system and transnational companies have become the main administrative managers."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-que-92-municipios-de-honduras-han-privatizado-el-agua-potable-a-traves-de-la-banca/>

<https://eliberador.hn/2022/09/08/oabi-subastara-15-caballitos-de-joh-cuando-termina-incaucion/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/08/oabi-subastara-15-caballos-que-fueron-incautados-a-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

09/09/22

Honduras Daily: MADJ; OFRANEH; Extractivism - Escazú; Labor Rights - US; EU; Children's Rights; Congress; Judicial Power; Suicide; CNDS; and No Place for a Former First Lady

"The Broad Movement for Dignity and Justice (MADJ) denounced (...) that the coordinator of the community nucleus of the Tolupán tribe of Luquigüe, in the department of Yoro, Benedicto Hernández, is being harassed, threatened and intimidated."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-amenazas-contra-integrante-de-tribu-tolupan-de-luquigue/>

OFRANEH's Miriam Miranda denounces acts of police harassment against her and her team.

<https://twitter.com/baraudawaguchu/status/1568309748163903495>

After the ongoing calls on the Honduran government to sign the Escazú Agreement, SERNA minister Lucky Medina stated this week: "We must take advantage of the conditions that exist on the part of this new government not only for the signing, but we must also talk about what will happen if we sign the Escazú Agreement today."

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-esquiva-adhesion-de-acuerdo-de-escazu/>

<https://cespad.org.hn/analisis-semanal-acuerdo-de-escazu-en-honduras-un-pulso-de-fuerzas/>

Adrienne Pine comes with an update on the labor struggle at the construction site of the new US embassy.

<https://twitter.com/adriennepine/status/1568222728401960962>

"Honduras advocated (..) for climate justice in a forum held in Tegucigalpa, in which the European Union (EU) reaffirmed its commitment to cooperate with the Central American country against global warming. The climate crisis is "a threat that does not stop" and a "huge daily challenge" that requires "constant adaptation", stressed the Honduran Minister of Environment, Lucky Medina, at the opening of the second round of dialogue between Honduras and the EU for cooperation on climate issues."

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-aboga-por-justicia-climatica-y-ue-reitera-compromiso-de-cooperacion/>

Honduras commemorates the Day of the Child today in a ongoing difficult context for children in the country suffering from violence, child labor and abuse. "The social debt with children is very large and this requires a lot of effort to overcome the challenges and to guarantee children the enjoyment of their rights, said to Proceso Digital, the representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), Héctor Espinal."

<https://proceso.hn/pobreza-abusos-y-violacion-de-derechos-se-ciernen-sobre-la-ninez-hondurena/>

<https://criterio.hn/ninas-hondurenas-obligadas-a-abandonar-su-ninez-para-convertirse-en-madres/>

<https://criterio.hn/en-honduras-las-ninas-tambien-son-victimas-de-explotacion-sexual/>

PSH congresswoman Suyapa Figueroa called on her colleagues to have Congress audited to justify how more than 78 million Lempiras have been spent on travel and per diems.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/09/suyapa-figueroa-el-cn-debe-someterse-a-una-auditoria-para-justiciar-el-gasto-de-78-millones-en-viajes-y-viaticos/>

The 14 representative of the Nomination Board for the selection of the new Supreme Court judges will be officially sworn in next Wednesday.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/09/proximo-miercoles-seran-juramentados-miembros-de-la-junta-nominadora/>

CONADEH denounces the high suicide rate in Honduras and the lack of adequate attention to mental disorders.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/09/alarmante-cada-22-horas-una-persona-es-victima-de-suicidio-en-honduras-conadeh/>

Since Libre, PSH and the Liberal Party started to find an agreement on the reform of the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS) Law, the public discussion has toned down. ContraCorriente published a helpful overview of the state of affairs.

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/09/09/promesa-de-democracia-en-juego-honduras-debate-ley-para-consejo-de-defensa-y-seguridad/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/09/redondo-explica-que-no-procede-inscripcion-de-exprimera-dama-ante-el-parlacen/>

12/09/22

Honduras Daily: Indigenous Peoples; Extractivism - Escazú; and Anna's Journeys

"15 years after the issuance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, we demand that it be adopted as an Indigenous Law in Honduras."

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1568776126763507712>

Radio Progreso also reports on this week's forum on the Escazú Agreement (see last days).

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/piden-al-gobierno-de-honduras-adherirse-al-acuerdo-de-escazu/>

<https://cespad.org.hn/asi-avanza-la-firma-del-acuerdo-de-escazu-y-la-busqueda-por-justicia-ambiental/>

El Libertador tells the story of the 14-year old Anna who fled Honduras trying to reach the US.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/10/el-viaje-de-ana-y-el-coyote-4000-dolares-y-mentiras/>

11/09/22

Honduras Daily: Labor Rights; National Police; Drug Trafficking; and Difficult Days Ahead

"The maquila workers are seen as mere robots, disposable for the businessmen, when they begin to present health problems due to this new slavery, they are simply fired, they must deliver 6,000 pieces daily and the repetitive movements they perform in this process cause them discomfort that deteriorates them permanently, but in the face of the violation of their human and labor rights, the blindness of those who should regulate such mistreatment is evident."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-obreras-siguen-expuestas-a-violaciones-de-sus-derechos-humanos/>

"At least one aspiring auxiliary officer died and twelve others were intoxicated during a test at the National Police Academy (ANAPO), located in La Paz, in the central part of the country."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/un-muerto-intoxicados-pruebas-gas-lacrimogeno-anapo-JA10013028>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/identifican-victima-mortal-aspirantes-afectados-en-anapo-NA10014955>

So far this year, 8 times more coca plants were destroyed by state security forces than in all 2021.

<https://proceso.hn/en-790-crece-la-erradicacion-de-coca-este-ano-en-honduras/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/premium/narcos-ya-no-se-esconden-para-sembrar-coca-en-honduras-la-prensa-premium-DA10014564>

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-detecto-un-narcovuelo-cada-cinco-dias-en-ultimos-11-anos/>

<https://www.defensoresonlinea.com/sergio-rivera-vienen-dias-amargos-para-el-pais>

12/09/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Mining - Guapinol; LGBTQ+ -Prisons, Church; Women's Rights; Labor Rights - US; UN - Xiomara, CICIH; Remittances; Human Trafficking; National Police; Prisons; Judicial Power; and Marching on September 15

"The United Nations Office for Human Rights today denounced recent attacks against at least 120 human rights activists in Honduras, in the form of threats, harassment and in some cases assassinations, and called on the government of the Central American country to make more efforts to protect this group. "Two-thirds of the victims are environmental activists, many of them indigenous or Afro-Honduran," said the acting UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jordanian Nada Al-Nashif, in her speech at the opening of the 51st session of the UN Human Rights Council. Al-Nashif called on the Honduran authorities to "strengthen its National Protection System for Human Rights Defenders, including by providing it with the necessary financial resources"."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/12/oficina-derechos-humanos-de-la-onu-denuncia-ataques-a-al-menos-120-activistas-en-honduras/>

"Preliminarily, the authorities of the Secretary of the Environment, Mi Ambiente, indicate that they have found significant damage in Carlos Escaleras National Park as a result of the mining activity carried out by Inversiones Los Pinares."

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/actividades-mineras-han-provocado-danos-en-el-parque-nacional-carlos-escaleras-senala-mi-ambiente/>

"The National Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (MNP-CONAPREV), through commissioner Melissa Escoto, denounced that security protocols are not being complied with for LGTBIQ+ persons in the country's prisons, explaining that there are no special spaces for this population and due to the existing homophobia they have suffered abuses ranging from physical aggressions to sexual violations."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/12/conaprev-denuncia-violaciones-a-los-derechos-de-la-poblacion-lgtbiq-en-los-centros-penales/>

Criterio reports on the role of religious group in feeding hatred and discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/cupulas-religiosas-siguen-con-discurso-de-odio-y-discriminacion-contra-poblacion-lgbtqi/>

Organized religion also came out once more against the legalization of the emergency contraceptive pill.

<https://criterio.hn/religiosos-se-oponen-a-la-aprobacion-de-la-pildora-anticonceptiva-de-emergencia-pae/>

Judy Ancel reported for Labor Notes on the labor struggle at the construction site of the US embassy.

The construction workers met recently with the legendary Honduran labor leader Carlos H. Reyes.

<https://labornotes.org/blogs/2022/09/workers-building-new-us-embassy-honduras-strike-over-severed-fingers-illegal-contracts>

<https://twitter.com/adriennepine/status/1569379660802179072>

President Xiomara will travel to New York to participate at the General Assembly at the UN. "Castro will address issues of interest to Honduras such as economic growth, sustainable development, natural disasters, migration, human rights and others. (...) In her agenda, the President plans to meet with UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, to discuss, among other issues, the installation of the International Commission Against Impunity in Honduras (CICIH), a request made by the Honduran government in February of this year and which is part of the campaign promises of the Refoundation Plan."

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-castro-viaja-a-ny-el-fin-de-semana-para-participar-en-asamblea-general-de-la-onu/>

"The jurist Joaquín Mejía indicated that it is positive that it is the head of the Executive Branch herself who talks with the UN authorities, since it would have a broad knowledge of both positions. He explained that on the part of the UN they propose that the CICIH be an independent and autonomous body in order to be able to present accusations, which would require a constitutional reform, and that they would be the ones to elect its members. He added that on the part of the government, what it proposes is that the CICIH should be an adhesive complainant and that it should have a say in electing its members. "As these two points are important, it seems to me that a dialogue between the President and the UN Secretary General is necessary because they are factors that are holding up the process for the installation of a CICIH," he said."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/12/consideran-que-reunion-entre-castro-y-guterres-se-debe-definir-reglas-de-la-ciclh/>

"Honduras received 5,746.1 million dollars from its nationals abroad during the first 8 months of 2022, an increase of 20.8% over the same period of 2021, informed the Central Bank (BCH) on Monday."

<https://proceso.hn/el-envio-de-remesas-a-honduras-crece-20-8-los-primeros-8-meses-de-2022/>

The Interinstitutional Commission Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons (CICESCT) met with representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to strengthen their collaboration.

<https://proceso.hn/naciones-unidas-se-suma-a-esfuerzos-contra-la-trata-de-personas-en-honduras/>

The deaths of two police aspirants during training (see yesterday) caused a controversy. "The death of two aspiring police officers is shrouded in mystery after official versions from the institution contrasted with others who claim that they were subjected to inhumane conditions during physical training exercises over the weekend."

The father of one of the victims denounces that his son seemed to have been hit on the head.

The director of the National Police Academy (Anapo) was suspended.

<https://proceso.hn/nueva-polemica-policia-tras-muerte-de-dos-aspirantes-en-entrenamiento/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/12/padre-de-jairo-martinez-fallecido-en-entrenamiento-de-la-anapo-asegura-que-joven-tenia-un-golpe-en-la-cabeza-pide-a-las-autoridades-de-seguridad-no-mentir-diciendo-que-tomo-una-bebida-energizante/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/12/policia-descarta-intoxicacion-en-muertes-de-aspirantes-suspende-a-jefe-de-anapo/>

Four prison guards were sent to pre-trial detention held responsible for facilitating the escape of an inmate.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/13/detencion-judicial-para-cuatro-agentes-penitenciarios-que-turnaban-cuando-se-fugo-acusada-de-planificar-asesinato-de-una-mujer-en-intibuca/>

Criterio portrays all 14 representatives of the Nomination Board of the Supreme Court election.

<https://criterio.hn/quienes-son-los-integrantes-de-la-junta-nominadora-de-la-corte/>

<https://tiempo.hn/comunidad-lgbtq-desfiles-honduras-aclaran/>

13/09/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH; Extractivism - Hydroelectricity; Corruption - CICIH, Penal Code; Women's Rights; 2023 Budget - Education; Judicial Power; EU - Forests; National Police; and Saving Tegucigalpa

"The legal defense team of former Honduran president Juan Orlando Hernandez appears to be unraveling after one attorney left the case and two other assistants also stopped collaborating with the lead attorney in New York, Raymond Colon, sources told Univision. Two key co-defendants also appear poised to plead guilty and possibly testify against him, according to court documents."

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/latin-america/former-honduran-president-hernandez-facing-uphill-battle-in-court>

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2022/09/13/fiscalia-solicita-a-la-corte-del-distrito-sur-de-new-york-proteccion-a-evidencias-contrajuan-orlando-hernandez-que-incluyen-intervenciones-telefonicas/>

According to Mi Ambiente Minister Lucky Medina, the Xiomara administration has not approved any new concessions since coming to power.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/en-honduras-no-se-han-otorgado-mas-concesiones-mineras-lucky-medina/>

MADJ wrote an open letter to Energy Minister Erick Tejada regarding two disputed hydroelectric projects, Jilamito and Los Planes, in the Atlántida department. They ask the following questions:

" Indicate the manner and date in which, the secretariat that you direct will proceed to the cancellation of the projects that are in the process of development and that are being promoted by HIDROCEP and INGELSA.

Review the operation of the projects already in operation and that any decision to be taken in relation to terminate or renegotiate contracts and that the principle of social justice established in the new law prevails.

Establish the specific mechanism proposed by the Secretariat for the review of the rest of the concession contracts, existing in the department, which continue to harm the rights of the communities and the public interest."

<https://madj.org/2022/09/13/1316/>

One requirement for the installation of the CICIH is the approval of the Efficient Collaboration Law. Libre congressman Jari Dixon called for a swift approval. The law is currently being discussed with different stakeholders.

<https://proceso.hn/urge-ley-de-colaboracion-eficaz-para-perseguir-peces-gordos-y-no-sardinas-jari-dixon-herrera/>

Another possible obstacle is the current, JOH-era Penal Code. Criterio reports that reforming or replacing the Penal Code could delay the installation of the CICIH.

<https://criterio.hn/crear-un-nuevo-codigo-penal-podria-atrasar-instalacion-de-la-cicih/>

"The absolute criminalization of abortion is not in accordance with the Honduran Constitution and violates the country's international human rights obligations, said Marcia Aguiluz, a lawyer with the legal department of the international organization Women's Link Worldwide, today through the amicus curiae brief she filed with the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ)."

<https://criterio.hn/al-prohibir-aborto-honduras-incumple-obligaciones-internacionales-en-derechos-humanos-womens-link-worldwide/>

The Council of Ministers approved the new budget for 2023. In comparison to 2022, the budget is 8% higher, 32 billion Lempiras, for a total of 392 billion Lempiras.

According to the Minister of Economic Development, the increase is less than the projected inflation.

The exact increase of the new budget became a point of debate because the Xiomara administration had initially already increased the 2022 budget it had inherited from the JOH regime.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/13/en-consejo-de-ministros-aprueban-presupuesto-2022-2023-con-un-aumento-de-l-32-mil-millones/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/13/incremento-en-el-presupuesto-es-menor-a-la-inflacion-proyectada-asegura-ministro-de-desarrollo-economico/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/13/presupuesto-general-2023-es-austero-secretario-de-la-presidencia/>

<https://proceso.hn/alerta-y-preocupacion-por-presupuesto-de-l-392-mil-millones-para-2023/>

President Xiomara laments that 12'000 out of the 17'800 schools in Honduras are destroyed and the newly approved budget should help change that.

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-de-honduras-dice-que-de-17800-escuelas-12000-estan-destruidas/>

The members of the Nomination Board for the Supreme Court election will be sworn in today. Criterio criticizes the lack of coverage of the important question on who will preside the board.

<https://criterio.hn/discusion-en-torno-a-quien-presidira-la-junta-nominadora-no-es-relevante/>

"The Director of the National Institute of Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife, Luis Soliz, and the Ambassador of the European Union in Honduras, Jaume Segura, signed the first memorandum of understanding of the Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) of the

Voluntary Partnership Agreement on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (VPA-FLEGT) between Honduras and the European Union. The signing of these minutes officially starts the implementation of the VPA-FLEGT."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/13/honduras-y-la-union-europea-firman-primera-acta-del-comite-de-aplicacion/>

"The Human Rights Board demanded an urgent, impartial, transparent and exhaustive investigation that would lead to the deduction of responsibilities in the case of the death of the ANAPO cadets, which should be accompanied by CONADEH and the OACNUDH, so that the events are not repeated." (see last two days)

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/denuncia/105-en-merte-de-cadetes-mesa-de-ddhh-demanda-investigacion-exhaustiva-profunda-y-transparente-investigacion-para-deducion-de-responsabilidades>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/13/aldana-inicia-ofensiva-con-500-millones-para-rescatar-la-capital/>

14/09/22

Honduras Daily: Ahuas; HRDs - Protection; ZEDEs; Judicial Power; Cannabis; 2023 Budget; Corruption - CICIH, Health System; Press Freedom; Labor Rights - US; and Respecting Human Dignity

Honduras Now published its second installment of the Honduras Now Podcast on the Ahuas massacre.

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1570214141616443395>

"The United Nations System in Honduras reiterates the need to strengthen the National Protection System for Human Rights Defenders. The United Nations System in Honduras expresses its concern about the difficult context faced by the National Protection Council and the General Directorate of the Protection System, as well as the context of the beneficiaries of protection. From January 1 to August 31, 2022, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OACNUDH) has documented at least 9 murders of human rights defenders and 2 journalists, which add up to a total of 96 cases of aggressions affecting 120 human rights defenders, 31 journalists and endangering the civic space of citizens."

<https://honduras.un.org/es/199063-naciones-unidas-reitera-la-importancia-de-fortalecer-el-sistema-nacional-de-proteccion>

"The Alternative for Community and Environmental Vindication of Honduras (ARCAH) filed a second complaint for treason against Hondurans who formed the Committee for the Adoption of Best Practices (CAMP), which regulated the unconstitutional and recently repealed Employment and Economic Development Zones (ZEDE). The complaint filed before the Public Prosecutor's Office is against Ricardo Rodolfo Maduro Joest, a businessman who served as president of the Republic for the National Party in the 2002-2006 period; and Octavio Rubén Sánchez Barrientos, who was former minister of staff in the government of Porfirio Lobo Sosa, according to Business Human Rights."

<https://criterio.hn/por-su-participacion-en-zede-denuncian-por-traicion-a-la-patria-a-expresidente-ricardo-maduro/>

The representatives of the Nomination Board were sworn in yesterday.

"OACNUDH facilitated a discussion between the Nominating Board and the UN Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers to address international human rights standards for the election process of judges to the High Courts."

<https://criterio.hn/juramentada-la-junta-nominadora-para-eleccion-de-la-corte/>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHNN/status/1570156384376717312>

Vice-president Salvador Nasralla continues to call for the legalization of cannabis highlighting its economic potential. According to him, in four years of cannabis production, Honduras would pay its foreign and domestic debt amounting to \$20 billion.

<https://proceso.hn/en-cuatro-anos-de-produccion-de-cannabis-honduras-paga-su-deuda-externa-e-interna-asegura-nasralla/>

The proposed 2023 budget was presented to Congress yesterday (see previous e-mail).

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/15/congreso-nacional-recibio-anteproyecto-del-presupuesto-general-2023-orientado-a-la-inversion/>

<https://tiempo.hn/presupuesto-cambiar-modelo-economico-de-honduras/>

The International Crisis Group lists the installation of a CICIH as one of the ten key challenges for the UN in 2022-23. "An opportunity exists for the UN to help break entrenched lawlessness in Honduras. For years afflicted by corruption and impunity among its political and economic elites, Honduras has seen stubbornly high crime rates and recurrent unrest amid sluggish, unevenly distributed economic growth.[49] Indeed, its homicide rate is now the highest in northern Central America.[50] Together, these problems have contributed to significant displacement, helping push hundreds of thousands of Hondurans to undertake the dangerous journey north to the U.S. every year.[51] The election of President Xiomara Castro, who ran as a leftist reformer willing to work with multilateral institutions, may create an opening for the UN to help build an institution that can help meet these challenges. (...) As the two sides work through these issues, the UN Secretariat's objective should be to come to agreement with the Castro government on a commission that is recognised by Honduras' judicial system, enjoys political support, has the independence needed to take effective action against high-level graft and can build the state's ability to do the same over the long term. In pursuing these goals, the two sides could consider a consultative process for the appointment of high-level national and international staff, while agreeing that the commission would have the power to carry out independent probes. At the same time, they could curb the risk of excessive discretionary powers – either for international officials or national politicians – by establishing clear rules of case selection, grounded in the public harm caused by the crime in question."

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/b8-united-states/ten-challenges-un-2022-2023>

<https://criterio.hn/instalacion-de-la-cicoh-en-honduras-uno-de-los-desafios-de-la-onu-para-2022-23/>

Two former officials from the Ministry of Health (SESAL) and two businessmen were arrested accused of corruption.

Three more people are wanted in this case.

The former Minister of Health from 2014-16, Yolani Batres, fled Honduras avoiding her arrest.

<https://tiempo.hn/mp-fraude-en-salud-empresarios-capturados/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/14/cuatro-de-los-siete-detenidos-en-red-de-corrupcion-en-la-sesal-seran-presentados-a-audiencia-de-imputados/>

<https://criterio.hn/funcionarios-corrupitos-de-administracion-joh-continuan-huyendo-del-pais/>

"On September 3, TNH's [National Television of Honduras] Instagram account made a post covering a meeting between members of Libre collectives and the general coordinator of that party, Manuel Zelaya Rosales. The publication was accompanied by the hashtags #Libre and #Government. Although the Committee for Free Expression (C-Libre) assures that this is the first record of a similar event during the government of Xiomara Castro, which began on January 27, 2023, its executive director, Amada Ponce, assures that the state media should not be used for such purposes."

<https://criterio.hn/medios-del-estado-comienzan-a-ser-utilizados-con-fines-partidarios/>

Adrienne Pine comes with another update on the labor struggle at the US embassy construction site.

<https://twitter.com/adriennepine/status/1570102941511475200>

<https://criterio.hn/politicos-utilizan-ninez-y-empobrecimiento-para-levantar-su-imagen-politica/>
15/09/22

Honduras Daily: September 15; CNTC;

Honduras commemorated the 201st independence day yesterday.

President Xiomara said in her speech: ""Independence is an unfinished process, a dream of the people that still maintains the momentum of those of us who believe in justice and the Republic," said President Castro who called on the Honduran people to build a world that does not destroy nature and where equality of human beings is possible in conditions of dignity and freedom."

Similar to previous years, since the coup d'état, there were two marches. "[O]ne in which the high schools, the police and the military paraded, commemorating 201 years of independence from the reign of Spain, and another of the sympathizers of the Liberty and Refoundation Party (Libre), the unions and some deputies and public officials who advocate for the refoundation promised by President Xiomara Castro in her 2021 election campaign."

"The celebrations were again characterized by the parades of people from the LGBTIQ+ community, who were booed and whistled at their entrance to the National Stadium "Chelato Uclés", in a clear demonstration of disrespect and intolerance by society."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/15/al-grito-de-viva-la-independencia-mandataria-xiomara-castro-inaugura-celebracion-del-201-aniversario-de-independencia/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/la-independencia-es-un-proceso-inconcluso-presidenta-xiomara-castro/>

<https://criterio.hn/el-desfile-de-libre-y-las-fiestas-civicas-refundacionales/>

<https://criterio.hn/fiesta-civica-refundacional-con-mismos-matices-de-siempre/>

The CNTC sent out an alert denouncing a violent eviction by armed police against a campesino community in Atlantida.

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1570624542984515585>

16/09/22

Honduras Daily: Extradition; Migration - Youth, TPS; US - Labor Rights; Judicial Power;

A judge granted the extradition of accused drug trafficker Michael Derringer Powery to the US.

<https://proceso.hn/conceden-extradicion-de-michael-derringer-powery-a-eeuu-por-narcotrafico/>

"The Council for the Integral Development of Rural Women (Codimca) has denounced on several occasions the invisibility of rural youth in State policies, pointing out that the oblivion to which they are sentenced has a more decisive impact on young women. (...) The reality for most adolescent girls in the countryside is that there is no opportunity for study, entertainment spaces or making their own resources, so in the end they decide to migrate or look for other alternatives, she shared."

<https://criterio.hn/juventudes-rurales-de-honduras-son-invisibilizadas-y-orilladas-a-migrar/>

Social movements and NGOs called on the US government to grant Temporary Protection Status (TPS) to people from El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala.

<https://www.lawg.org/wp-content/uploads/TPS-NGO-Letter-September-2022-1.pdf>

Criteria reports on the labor struggle at the US embassy construction site. Labor representatives wanted to meet with the Labor Ministry but the later refused to receive their complaint.

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-a-secretaria-del-trabajo-por-ignorar-reclamos-contr-a-constructora-de-nueva-embajada-de-ee-uu/>

CESPAD takes a closer look at the role of civil oversight during the Supreme Court selection process.

<https://cespad.org.hn/analisis-semanal-la-veeduria-ciudadana-una-gran-oportunidad-en-el-proceso-de-eleccion-de-la-corte-suprema-de-justicia-en-honduras/>

17/09/22

Honduras Daily: OFRANEH; CNDS; Corruption - Trans-450; UN; Drug Trafficking; Tegucigalpa; Assange; and It's Time to Change

The Garífuna community in Punta Gorda, Roatán, recuperated a part of their ancestral land.

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1571116533140848643>

Congress is still discussing with different stakeholders the reforms of the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS).

<https://criterio.hn/sin-prisa-avanzan-consensos-para-aprobar-nueva-ley-del-cnnds-en-el-congreso/>

Jorge Aldana stopped a controversial infrastructure project in Tegucigalpa from his predecessor as mayor. "But beyond saying "clean slate", analysts and former authorities of the Municipal Corporation, interviewed by Criterio.hn, agree that the time has come to raise awareness about the lack of prosecution of crime by the Public Prosecutor's Office, especially with regard to finding those responsible for this "monument to corruption"."

<https://criterio.hn/trans-450-cancelado-e-impunidad-para-responsables-del-fraude/>

President Xiomara traveled to New York yesterday to attend the UN General Assembly.

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-de-honduras-viaja-a-nueva-york-para-asistir-a-asamblea-general-onu/>

Honduras continues to be listed by the US as a main drug transit and production countries.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/09/15/memorandum-on-presidential-determination-on-major-drug-transit-or-major-illicit-drug-producing-countries-for-fiscal-year-2023/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/17/joe-biden-ratifico-a-honduras-en-la-lista-de-paises-que-no-combaten-el-trafico-de-drogas-y-de-paises-de-transito-o-productores-de-drogas/>

The ground opened up in the Guillén neighborhood in Tegucigalpa this week.

Taiwan donated \$100'000 in response.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/tegucigalpa/raquel-hernandez-falla-geologica-guillen-copeco-riesgos-albergues-AA10106204>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/17/taiwan-dona-100-mil-para-los-afectados-de-colonia-guillen/>

Presidential advisor Manuel Zelaya communicated to the new UK Prime Minister Liz Truss that Honduras calls for the liberation of Julian Assange.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/17/gobierno-exige-a-inglaterra-liberar-a-periodista-julian-assange/>

"And if there is another message to rescue from September 15, 2022, let it be the massive presence of the population in all cities around a refoundational approach. Honduras cannot continue with the same jowls. With the same opinionated opposition with no soul and no ideas. It is the time of women and youth, of diversities. It is time to change the era."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/los-mensajes-del-15-de-septiembre/>

18/09/22

Honduras Daily: Migration - TPS; Education; and Transformation Takes Time

Central Americans living in the US will hold a rally today in Washington demanding Temporary Protection Status (TPS) for them. Hondurans also hope that president Xiomara will address this during her US visit.

<https://proceso.hn/hondurenos-a-protestar-en-washington-y-esperan-que-presidenta-castro-abogue-por-un-nuevo-tps/>

"Despite the efforts of the new authorities of the Ministry of Education, progress in the design of a new school curriculum is proceeding slowly and with little socialization, educational experts told Criterio.hn."

<https://criterio.hn/aseguran-que-no-ha-habido-avances-en-diseno-de-nuevo-curriculo-escolar/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/mario-membreno-los-grandes-cambios-en-la-vida-de-cualquier-sociedad-no-se-producen-de-la-noche-a-la-manana/>

19/09/22

Honduras Daily: Drug Trafficking - JOH; Corruption - Congress, IHSS; Judicial Power - JOH; Debt; HR; Xiomara - US; and Leaving Parlacen

The next hearing in JOH's drug trafficking case was postponed to October 27.

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2022/09/19/fecha-de-proxima-audiencia-y-juicio-contra-juan-orlando-hernandez-seran-re-programadas/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/posponen-27-octubre-audiencia-juan-orlando-hernandez-narcotrafico-ny-GC10128925>

"Deputies of the National Congress urge the president of that branch of the State, Luis Redondo, to soon submit for discussion the repeal of decrees 57-2020 and 93-2021, two regulations that hinder the fight against corruption by the prosecutorial units of the Public Prosecutor's Office. Both decrees, considered harmful by deputies, prosecutors and representatives of civil society, were approved during the 2018-2022 legislative period, during which the Nationalist Mauricio Oliva served as president of Congress."

<https://criterio.hn/diputados-exigen-derogacion-de-decretos-que-impiden-la-lucha-contra-la-corrupcion/>

An appeals court dictated to open trial against the former Nationalist congressman Reynaldo Ekónimo linked to the IHSS corruption case.

https://twitter.com/MP_Honduras/status/1572010136000135175

<https://tiempo.hn/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-exdiputado-ekonomo/>

Lawyer Mario Urquía and representative of the Bar Association of Honduras (CAH) was elected the president of the Nomination Board for the Supreme Court election.

<https://proceso.hn/mario-urquia-presidira-la-junta-nominadora/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/19/integridad-asegurada-en-seleccion-de-candidatos-a-magistrados/>

<https://criterio.hn/cah-y-centrales-obreras-a-la-cabeza-de-la-junta-nominadora/>

"The Minister of Transparency, Edmundo Orellana Mercado asked this Monday to review all the appointments of magistrates and judges made by the current authorities of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ). He stated that many of the officials who were appointed by the current CSJ "suddenly do not have the proper merits for them and should be reviewed to be relocated to put them where they really should be"."

<https://proceso.hn/ministro-de-transparencia-pide-revisar-todos-los-nombramientos-hechos-por-la-actual-csj/>

Foreign debt has decreased by 2.3% between December 2021 and July 2022.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/19/deuda-externa-en-honduras-suma-9037-millones/>

The Honduran delegation attending the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva met with Fabián Salvioli, Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. They also met with the Committee on Forced Disappearance.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/19/delegacion-de-honduras-en-el-consejo-de-dd-hh-de-la-onu-discute-sobre-las-desapariciones-forzadas/>

During her trip to New York, president Xiomara met with US government representatives on the Temporary Protection Mechanism (TPS) (see last days). She and her delegation also met with the director of the FAO, Qu Dongyu.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/20/presidenta-xiomara-castro-se-reune-con-comunidad-migrante-y-director-de-la-fao-en-nueva-york/>

<https://criterio.hn/parlacen-un-organo-decorativo-del-que-honduras-no-deberia-formar-parte/>
20/09/22

Honduras Daily: Hydroelectricity; UN - Xiomara; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Tegucigalpa; 2023 Budget; Corruption - JOH; Public Health; and a New Economic Model

MADJ denounces the lack of a clear decision by the Xiomara administration to cancel hydroelectric concessions. "'Arguments and evidence to immediately cancel these electric concessions exist and in abundance, what is needed is a clear decision by the government to cancel them", said the general coordinator of the Broad Movement for Dignity and Justice (MADJ), Martin Fernández."

And even worse news in the Reitoca case. "The judicial persecution against water defenders in Reitoca, Francisco Morazán continues. This Tuesday, September 20, at the hearing for notification of the resolution, the provisional dismissal of five Lenca defenders of the Petacón River was revoked."

<https://criterio.hn/falta-decision-clara-del-gobierno-para-cancelar-concesiones-electricas-movimiento-amplio/>

<https://criterio.hn/pese-a-falta-de-pruebas-revocan-sobreseimiento-provisional-a-cinco-defensores-de-reitoca/>

President Xiomara spoke at the UN General Assembly. "Not only am I the first woman to have the honor of leading our Central American nation, but I also represented the first democratically elected government after 13 years of dictatorship, the 2009 coup d'état, fraught with cruel murders and death squads, two electoral frauds, a pandemic and two hurricanes, it is impossible to understand the Honduran people and the large caravans of migrants without recognizing this context of cruel suffering that we have had to go through. But electoral democracy is not enough to obtain the material and spiritual well-being of our people. Thirteen years of dictatorship under the tutelage of the international community led the country to multiply its public debt by six times and reach a poverty rate of 74 percent, the highest rate in the history of Honduras."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/20/queremos-vivir-en-paz-no-sigan-tratando-de-desestabilizar-honduras-o-escoger-con-quienes-debemos-relacionarnos-presidenta-xiomara-castro-en-77a-asamblea-de-la-onu/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/xiomara-castro-reclama-a-la-comunidad-internacional-su-respaldo-a-la-dictadura-de-joh/>

<https://criterio.hn/desafiante-discurso-de-xiomara-castro-en-la-onu/>

Univision also reports on the postponed trial date of JOH (see yesterday). "The New York federal judge in the drug trafficking case involving former Honduran president Juan Orlando Hernandez drug case has ordered the trial to be delayed by more than three months until April 2023 due to complications over the handling of classified documents."

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/united-states/drug-trial-of-juan-orlando-hernandez-postponed-until-april-2023>

Due to the tense situation with the active geological fault lines in Tegucigalpa (see previous e-mails), the festivities for the 444th anniversary of the capital were postponed.

Proceso Digital report that some inhabitants refuse to leave their homes.

In total, there are 21 active fault lines.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/20/cancelada-celebracion-de-aniversario-de-tegucigalpa-debido-a-emergencias/>

<https://proceso.hn/hay-pobladores-que-rehusan-abandonar-colonias-afectadas-e-ir-a-albergues/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/mas-de-21-fallas-geologicas-mantienen-en-zozobra-a-la-capital/>

Luis Redondo, congressional president, met with the presidents of the different political parties to discuss the 2023 budget.

The Finance Minister Rixi Moncada, meanwhile, explains the low execution rate of the current budget. "Of course there is a low execution in the first nine months and it is due first to the need to restructure the whole model of taking out public resources without control," she said. "The second thing is everything related to the trusts, and the third thing is the whole process of transparently setting the route, mechanisms and the areas where investments will be made," Moncada explained."

<https://proceso.hn/presidente-del-congreso-se-reune-con-jefes-de-bancadas-para-darles-a-conocer-el-presupuesto-general-2023/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/20/sefin-expone-razones-de-la-baja-ejecucion-presupuestaria/>

Another corruption case seems to end with a disappointment. A court dismissed the charges against the former, JOH-era Deputy Health Minister Nery Cerrato.

<https://proceso.hn/sobreseido-el-exviceministro-de-salud-ner-y-cerrato/>

The Xiomara administration employed 800 additional nurses.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/20/sesal-contrata-800-nuevos-auxiliares-en-enfermeria-para-los-18-departamentos/>

"President Xiomara Castro pledged before the 77th General Assembly of the United Nations to "build an alternative and profoundly sovereign economic model", as well as to de-privatize public services such as water, health, electricity and internet."

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-se-esta-construyendo-bajo-una-vision-de-refundacion-humanista-presidenta-xiomara-castro-en-onu/>

21/09/22

Honduras Daily: Rain - BCIE; Corruption - CICIH, de Lobo, Mobile Hospitals; HR - UN, EU; US; Migration - Mexico; and What Is Happening at Anapo

"The Secretariat of Risk Management and National Contingencies (Copeco) ordered this Tuesday, September 21, mandatory and voluntary evacuations for several areas near the Ulua River in northern Honduras."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/22/emergencia-copeco-ordena-evacuaciones-obligatorias-y-voluntarias/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/21/mas-de-1700-nuevos-damnificados-dejan-lluvias/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1572785892116533248>

The BCIE approved a \$500'000 donation to Honduras for the affected by the fault lines and mudslides in Tegucigalpa (see last days).

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/21/bcie-aprueba-donacion-de-emergencia-por-500000-a-mas-de-150-familias-afectadas-por-deslaves-en-tegucigalpa/>

President Xiomara met with the UN General Secretary Antonio Guterres and they agreed to speed up the installation of UN-backed anti-corruption body, a CICIH.

<https://criterio.hn/reunion-entre-xiomara-castro-y-antonio-guterres-representa-avance-con-miras-a-instalacion-de-la-cicih/>

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-castro-y-onu-acuerdan-acelerar-instalacion-de-la-cicih-en-honduras/>

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/readout/2022-09-21/readout-of-the-secretary-general%E2%80%99s-meeting-he-ms-iris-xiomara-castro-sarmiento-president-of-the-republic-of-honduras>

The former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla de Lobo was sentenced anew in her corruption re-trial, she now faces 14 years in prison instead of 58 years after the initial trial.

Her defense announced to appeal the ruling.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/mas-de-14-anos-de-reclusion-para-ex-primeradama/>

<https://criterio.hn/por-desvio-de-fondos-condenan-a-14-anos-de-prision-a-ex-primeradama-de-honduras/>

<https://tiempo.hn/defensa-de-rosa-de-lobo-recurso-de-casacion/>

The MP appealed the court ruling to have the charges dropped against the former head of COPECO, Gabriel Alfredo Rubí Paredes, and the former vice-minister of health Nery Conrado (see yesterday).

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/con-recurso-de-apelacion-mp-buscara-revertir-sobresesiones-con-los-que-se-favorecio-a-exfuncionarios-gabriel-rubi-y-nery-cerrato/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/21/mp-presentara-apelacion-para-revertir-sobreseimiento-favorable-a-gabriel-rubi-y-nerly-cerrato/>

"The [Human Rights] Minister, Natalie Roque, met with the President of the [UN] Human Rights Council, Federico Villegas, to exchange ideas and at the same time to strengthen bilateral ties with interactive dialogues on a wide range of issues related to the area."

Foreign Minister Enrique Reina, meanwhile, met with Eamon Gilmore, the EU Special Representative for Human Rights.

And in New York, Honduran human rights defenders held a parallel meeting to the UN General Assembly denouncing the persecution of environmental defenders.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/21/ministra-de-dd-hh-se-reune-con-federico-villegas-en-ginebra-suiza/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/21/el-canciller-enrique-reina-sostuvo-una-reunion-con-eamon-gilmore-representante-especial-de-la-union-europea-para-derechos-humanos/>

<https://criterio.hn/en-reunion-paralela-a-la-77-asamblea-de-la-onu-denuncian-persecucion-contra-defensores-en-honduras/>

There are some hopeful signs that Honduras may access the US Millennium Challenge Fund again. Under the JOH-regime, access was denied due to poor human rights and anti-corruption performance.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/21/honduras-sostiene-reuniones-para-ser-elegible-nuevamente-a-la-cuenta-del-milenio/>

<https://eliberador.hn/2022/09/21/honduras-reingresara-a-cuenta-del-milenio-en-2023-segun-economista/>

"The various causes that force Hondurans to migrate and seek new paths in the United States do not stop. Far from this social phenomenon diminishing, it is increasing every day, being a proof of this the asylum requests that are channeled in Mexico. The Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid (Comar) registered between January and August 2022 20,235 asylum requests from Hondurans out of a total of 77,786. Hondurans represent the highest number of requests with 26% of a list of more than ten countries, followed by Cubans with 12,898, Haiti with 10,392 and Venezuela with 8,282 requests."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-encabeza-peticiones-de-refugio-en-mexico/>

"Three young people died and 31 were hospitalized during the training of aspiring auxiliary officers at the National Police Academy (Anapo). For now, a definitive version of what happened is not known, nor have the autopsies of the deceased been revealed. However, relatives of those affected and experts assure that there was excessive force in the training."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/09/21/apologia-a-la-crueldad-y-secretismo-son-el-centro-de-la-tragedia-ocurrida-en-la-anapo/>

22/09/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; LGBTQ+ - IACHR; Femicides - Keyla; ZEDEs; Journalists; Judicial Power; National Police; Poverty - Climate Crisis; and an Unsustainable Debt

As the rains continue, the situation becomes more tense in Honduras. COPECO declared red alert for two departments, Santa Bárbara and Copán.

School is cancelled in all Honduras at least until Monday.

Proceso Digital published an article entitled "Emergency!"

<https://proceso.hn/alerta-roja-en-dos-departamentos-y-municipios-aledanos-a-la-ribera-del-rio-ulua/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/un-verdadero-drama-viven-comunidades-que-habitan-a-las-orillas-del-rio-ulua/>

<https://tiempo.hn/cancelan-clases-en-honduras-inundaciones-septiembre/>

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

Honduras LGBTQ+ organizations called on the IACHR to intervene so that the country takes the necessary steps to allow same-sex marriage.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/monitoreo/112-por-primera-vez-la-comunidad-lgtbiq-hondurena-presento-peticiones-ante-la-cidh-sobre-matrimonio-entre-personas-del-mismo-sexo-para-que-revise-las-actuaciones-del-estado-que-lo-prohibe>

<https://proceso.hn/lgtbi-pide-a-cidh-intervenir-para-que-honduras-registre-matrimonio-homosexual/>

The Center for Women's Rights (CDM) registered 198 femicides so far this year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/22/honduras-registra-198-femicidios-en-lo-que-va-del-ano/>

The femicide of nursing student Keyla Martínez went to trial yesterday. She was murdered inside a police station on February 6, 2021.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/inicia-juicio-contr-policia-acusado-por-crimen-de-keyla-patricia-martinez/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/en-tribunal-de-siguatopeque-inicia-juicio-contr-policia-acusado-de-asesinar-a-keyla-martinez-bajo-custodia-policial/>

<https://criterio.hn/sentencia-imparcial-y-castigo-a-involucrados-exigen-en-juicio-contr-policia-senalado-en-caso-de-keyla-martinez/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/madre-de-keyla-exige-que-la-justicia-sea-transparente-que-no-se-parcialice/>

"The Alternativa de Reivindicación Comunitaria y Ambientalista de Honduras (ARCAH) denounced the destruction of the forest of the Bay Islands through construction a few meters from the coral reef by the now repealed Employment and Economic Development Zone (ZEDE) Prospera."

<https://criterio.hn/sin-permiso-de-operacion-y-sin-auditoria-ambiental-continua-construccion-en-prospera/>

"Orlando Gómez, a social communicator, was verbally assaulted by the councilman of the Municipal Corporation of Cholulteca, Cristóbal Rodríguez, for carrying out his journalistic work. In addition to the above, the journalist also received threats from two followers of the official, who approached him to warn him, "get out of here because we are going to hit you"."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1537-andate-de-aqui-porque-te-vamos-a-pelar-le-dicen-al-periodista-orlando-gomez>

"After holding a first working meeting this Thursday, the Nominating Board informed that they are awaiting a draft from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which will allow them to establish the internal regulations of this body in view of the call for self-applicants for candidates for magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ)."

<https://proceso.hn/junta-nominadora-espera-borrador-del-alto-comisionado-para-establecer-reglas-de-funcionamiento/>

CONADEH announced to bring the death of the police aspirants to the Inter-American Human Rights System.

<https://criterio.hn/presentaran-denuncia-internacional-contr-el-estado-de-honduras-por-muerte-de-aspirantes-policiales/>

Oxfam published a report on how the climate crisis worsens the situation of hunger in Central America.

<https://criterio.hn/aumenta-el-hambre-en-el-corredor-seco-de-centroamerica-oxfam/>

<https://tiempo.hn/modelo-economico-tiene-a-honduras-con-deuda-impagable/>

23/09/22

Honduras Daily: Rain; Guapinol; Femicide - Keyla; Campesines; FoE; Corruption - CICIH, Fonac; BCIE; Migration - US; and Petrol Pirates

As the heavy rainfalls continue, the Xiomara administration declared a national emergency.

"President Xiomara Castro instructed the government cabinet to leave the desks and begin to execute actions in the face of the national emergency caused by the constant rains in the country. The National Risk System (Sinager) met to evaluate the actions taken to counteract the landslides, overflows and floods that have affected several areas of the territory."

<https://proceso.hn/unos-17-mil-afectados-por-lluvias-en-honduras-mientras-gobierno-declara-emergencia-nacional/>

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1573533027040432128>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1573453602773172224>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/23/presidenta-castro-ordena-a-los-secretarios-salir-de-los-escritorios-y-ejecutar-acciones-ante-emergencia/>

"Bureaucracy, negligence and an archaic system within the Ministry of Security and the Judiciary continue to make defenders of the territory vulnerable, even when they receive letters of release for the processes they faced under the auspices of the Public Prosecutor's Office. This is the case of the eight defenders of Guapinol, who after 914 days of arbitrary imprisonment and their subsequent release as a result of the annulment of the trial by the Constitutional Chamber, continue to be requested at National Police checkpoints."

<https://criterio.hn/aun-tras-su-liberacion-defensores-del-territorio-estan-expuestos-a-ser-revictimizados-por-la-policia/>

Day two of the femicide trial of Keyla Martínez took place yesterday. COFADEH denounced that the Ministry of Security continues to support the accused police agent.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/secretaria-de-seguridad-sigue-apoyando-agente-policial-que-esta-siendo-juzgado-por-el-femicidio-de-keyla-martinez/>

COFADEH successfully accompanied two former criminalized campesinos to get back bail paid in 2015.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/cofاده-logra-devolucion-de-fianza-a-campesinos-criminalizados-que-fueron-declarados-inocentes-en-el-2021/>

Proceso Digital reports on the ongoing task of depenalize so-called crimes of honor such as libel.

<https://proceso.hn/despenalizar-delitos-contra-el-honor-pone-a-prueba-discurso-politico/>

CESPAD explains why an accelerated installation of a CICIH needs greater citizen participation.

<https://cespad.org.hn/acelerar-la-instalacion-de-la-cicoh-solo-es-posible-con-mayor-participacion-de-la-sociedad-civil/>

The Xiomara administration plans to replace the criticized Fonac with the Citizen Participation Board. According to Libre congressman Obed López, "Fonac lost credibility for not denouncing all the acts of corruption committed by previous governments, and that is why it should disappear because it did not fulfill its role of oversight and denunciation".

<https://proceso.hn/fonac-perdio-credibilidad-por-permitir-actos-de-corrupcion-y-acompanar-la-dictadura-acusa-diputado-de-libre/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/23/una-vez-aprobada-la-mesa-de-participacion-ciudadana-el-fonac-desaparecera/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/23/consideran-que-se-debe-analizar-alcance-de-las-mesas-de-participacion-ciudadana/>

Honduras and the BCIE signed an agreement on the mitigation of energy and fuel prices.

<https://proceso.hn/el-bcie-y-honduras-acuerdan-subsidio-para-energia-y-laboratorio-de-moleculas/>

"A humanitarian program aimed at helping Central American children reunite with family members in the United States has gotten off to a slow start under the Biden administration despite an attempt to revive the program from its Trump-era cancellation, according to a new report from the International Refugee Assistance Project."

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/21/politics/central-american-minor-program-slow-moving-biden-report/index.html>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/23/piratas-del-petroleo-son-protegidos-por-el-gobierno-hondureno/>
24/09/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; Corruption - Fonac; El Tiempo; and No Bail for JOH

Red alerts were prolonged for another 48h due to the heavy rains.

The decree declaring a national emergency for 90 days was published in La Gaceta.

In El Progreso, 779 inmates had to be transferred due to the rains.

Honduran firefighters have reported nine deaths so far.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/extienden-alertas-roja-amarilla-y-verde-para-todo-honduras-por-48-horas-mas-CD10209946>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/24/honduras-en-alerta-por-90-dias-presidenta-habilita-compras-directas-para-salvar-vidas/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/oficializan-decreto-emergencia-lluvias-honduras-vigencia-90-dias-PC10214092>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/24/mas-de-770-privados-de-libertad-fueron-evacuados-del-centro-penal-de-el-progreso-ante-riesgo-de-inundaciones/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1573724184848596992>

Criterio has more on the announced disappearance of Fonac (see yesterday).

<https://criterio.hn/instancia-que-sustituya-al-fonac-debe-ser-previamente-consensuada-con-organizaciones-de-sociedad-civil/>

"After almost seven years of silence, the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) ruled that the Rosenthal Hidalgo family must pay the benefits of former employees and plaintiffs of Diario Tiempo, left adrift by indirect dismissals."

<https://criterio.hn/corte-ordena-a-familia-rosenthal-pagar-prestaciones-de-183-exempleados-de-diario-tiempo/>

JOH received less support than expected by his defense and they did not even request a bail for him.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/solicitud-fianza-joh-no-presentada-comunidad-apoyaba-se-retiro-LJ10199736>

26/09/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; OFRANEH; HRDs - Reitoca; Extractivism - Escazú; Femicide - Keyla; Corruption - CICIH; BCIE; IMF; BID; and No Savior for Zelaya

By Monday, the rains had stopped for a moment. Over 24'000 had been affected at this point and at least 13 people died.

But new rain is expected as consequence of hurricane Ian. Accordingly, different departments maintain their red and yellow alerts.

Classes also continue to be suspended in the affected areas.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/impacto-lluvias-dejan-mas-24-mil-afectados-honduras-KB10220497>

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-golpeada-por-lluvias-a-falta-de-lo-mas-intenso-del-invierno/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/lluvias-afecciones-huracan-ian-regiones-honduras-JA10237842>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/extienden-alertas-48-horas-honduras-efectos-de-huracan-ian-EB10227461>

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/se-mantienen-suspendidas-las-clases-en-zonas-afectadas/>

OFRANEH informs about the recent recuperation of ancestral land in La Entrada, Punta Gorda (see previous e-mail).

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1574165507841957891>

<https://criterio.hn/punta-gorda-ejemplo-de-ausencia-de-proteccion-juridica-a-garifunas-en-honduras-ofraneh/>

Five defenders fro Reitoca will face a preliminary hearing tomorrow after an appeals court revoked a provisional dismissal of the case. They are being criminalized for their opposition to a hydroelectric project by Progelsa on the Petacón River.

<https://criterio.hn/poder-judicial-niega-ammistia-a-defensores-lencas-de-reitoca/>

After some recent statements by deputy foreign minister Gerardo Torres, OFRANEH fears that the Escazú agreement won't be implemented any times soon. It seems that one of the main stumbling blocks is a mechanism for free, prior and informed consent.

<https://twitter.com/ofraneh/status/1574464546617819136>

COFADEH continues to accompany the Keyla Martínez femicide trial (see previous week). The defense tried to distort the final report of the autopsy which had clearly shown that Keyla died due to asphyxiation.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/caso-keyla-perito-consultor-de-la-secretaria-de-seguridad-pretende-desvirtuar-examen-final-de-autopsia/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/en-juicio-caso-keyla-peritos-senalan-que-es-imposible-que-se-haya-suicidio/>

"Alice H. Shackelford, resident coordinator of the United Nations (UN), said Monday that there are important advances in the process to install the International Commission against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (CICIH) but recognizes that it has been prolonged due to negotiations. In declarations to the radio network América Multimedios, the resident representative of the United Nations, referred that the expectation about the meeting held by the President of the Republic Xiomara Castro de Zelaya with the Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, was not intended to sign the memorandum of understanding, but to polish it. "I think the expectation was that first the secretary general could meet with the president; this was the most important expectation that has been achieved," she stressed and added that there are still pending details "we understand that the commitment of the two parties is to continue the process to finalize the signing of the memorandum of understanding as soon as possible.""

<https://proceso.hn/representante-de-naciones-unidas-admite-que-proceso-para-instalar-cicih-se-prologo-en-honduras/>

The Central-American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE) held a press conference yesterday. Its president Dante Mossi announced that the bank had approved \$450 million in loans this year for Honduras to fight losses in the energy system and to counteract high fuel and energy prices.

<https://proceso.hn/el-bcie-aprueba-450-millones-de-dolares-a-honduras-en-los-ultimos-meses/>

Representatives of the Xiomara administration met with the IMF yesterday.

The talks will continue next month.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/26/mision-del-ejecutivo-y-fmi-se-reunen-para-efectuar-revision-economica-del-pais/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/26/para-octubre-se-preve-un-nuevo-encuentro-entre-el-fmi-y-gobierno-para-continuar-con-las-negociaciones/>

Reina Irene Mejía Chacón from Honduras is the new ad-interim president of the Inter-American Development Bank.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/quien-es-hondurena-reina-irene-mejia-chacon-presidenta-interina-del-bid-CA10234116>

Vice-president Salvador Nasralla and former president and presidential advisor Manuel Zelaya have a very public back and forth.

This led some to once again question the alliance between PSH and Libre.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/25/continua-la-controversia-entre-nasralla-y-zelaya-por-fondos-del-estado-y-funciones-en-el-gobierno/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/25/ligia-ramos-invita-a-los-lideres-del-partido-libre-a-realizar-una-conferencia-de-prensa-si-quieren-terminar-la-alianza-con-el-psh/>

<https://tiempo.hn/piden-a-mel-y-nasralla-deponer-armas-tras-tiradera/>

27/09/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Gualcarque; LGBTQ+; Extractivism; Femicide - Keyla; Corruption - CICIH, Fonac, IHSS; Rains; Armed Forces; Labor Rights; Migration; and Privatizing Beaches

COPINH denounces that the Gualcarque Fraud case remains suspended as the Supreme Court has not dealt yet with an amparo request.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1574885413528936468>

"The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (PGR) requested the National Congress to designate a person with decision-making power in order to initiate conversations with said

institution that represents the State of Honduras, in order to achieve compliance with a recommendation of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to make same-sex marriage, popularly known as gay or lesbian marriage, viable."

<https://proceso.hn/pgr-pide-al-congreso-que-designe-negociador-para-implementar-matrimonio-gay-como-lo-pide-la-cidh/>

FOSDEH and others published a socio-environmental conflict index. "Will conflicts be the most evident expression of the alteration of the claims of territorial, indigenous and Afro-Honduran movements against the State? Will it be intrinsic to any democratic regime, since it is the form taken by society's demands or disagreement with certain government measures or policies? The answer was to see social conflict as a multidimensional phenomenon, with implications in governance, security, taxation and others. If so, how to make a contribution that is useful to social movements, indigenous and Afro-descendant territorial peoples to understand, decide and act on the conflict?"

<https://fosdeh.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/fosdeh-2022-indice-conflictividad-final.pdf>

During the ongoing trial in the case of the femicide against Keyla Martínez, social movements gathered outside the court demanding justice for her.

The responsible court inspected the cell in which Keyla was murdered.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/keyla-no-se-suicidio-la-policia-la-mato-expresa-grupo-de-mujeres-que-exigen-justicia-en-las-afueras-del-tribunal-de-la-esperanza/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/padre-de-keyla-martinez-hoy-estamos-aqui-para-exigir-justicia-para-mi-hija/>

<https://proceso.hn/tribunal-de-sentencia-inspecciona-celda-donde-murio-keyla-martinez/>

CESPAD presents some of the possible reasons why the Xiomara administration and the UN have not yet signed the memorandum of understanding on the installation of a CICIH.

<https://cespad.org.hn/puntos-de-quebre-que-explican-por-que-honduras-no-firma-el-memorandum-para-la-instalacion-de-la-cicih/>

Last week, plans for the disappearance of the National Convergence Forum (Fonac) became public. This then led to rumors that also the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA) is to disappear. Congressional vice-president Hugo Noé Pino denounced this as a "perverse campaign".

It further needs to be said that Fonac was just reactivated two years ago under JOH and presided by one of his allies, Omar Rivera. So its function has been undermined by the start. The CNA is older and even though some criticize its role during the coup, it has sharpened up these last years. UFERCO's Luis Santos praised their anti-corruption work.

Given this, it is still worrisome that the CNA plays along with the story of being under threat.

<https://proceso.hn/como-campana-perversa-atribuye-noe-pino-ersiones-que-aseguran-que-el-cn-pretende-eliminar-al-cna/>

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1574898003604905989

https://twitter.com/All_Things_HND/status/1574924756058767361

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/27/cna-dice-que-el-ejecutivo-quiere-intervenir-en-su-asamblea-con-mesas-ciudadanas/>

A judge denied an appeal by the former Nationalist congressman Reynaldo Ekonomo. He is being accused as part of the IHSS corruption case.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/declaran-sin-lugar-recurso-de-reposicion-a-favor-del-excongresista-reynaldo-ekonomo/>

In response to the heavy rainfalls, the central government will transfer 200 million Lempiras to the municipalities to attend the emergency situation.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/27/ejecutivo-habilita-200-millones-de-lempiras-a-la-amhon-para-atender-emergencias/>

Criterio reports on the role of the Armed Forces under the Xiomara administration and how recent statements can be interpreted as an attempt to whitewash their previous problematic role. "Joaquín Mejía, a doctor in human rights, commented to Criterio.hn that the government should be reminded of what renowned Honduran analyst Víctor Meza said: "The military is the worst nightmare for democracy in Honduras"."

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-busca-limpiar-imagen-de-los-militares/>

Pasos de Animal Grande warns that a lack of a procedure in accordance with the Labor Rights contained in the Civil Service Law and the General Labor Code was not applied in the liquidation of the employees of 17 Secretaries of State which could generate huge costs for the Honduran people.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/denuncia/113-en-unos-anos-el-pueblo-hondureno-pagara-millonarias-sumas-de-dinero-por-despidos-ilegales-en-el-actual-gobierno>

Over 80'000 Cuban and Venezuelans have tried to cross Honduras this year on their way to the US.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/27/mas-de-84000-cubanos-y-venezolanos-han-ingresado-a-honduras-en-2022/>

<https://criterio.hn/alertan-sobre-pretension-de-privatizar-playas-en-la-ceiba-honduras/>

28/09/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; Berta -Gualcarque; Indigenous Peoples - Lenca, Tolupán; LGBTQ+; Corruption - Fonac; Labor Rights - US; Journalists; Judicial Power; BID; IMF; and a Central-American Train

"Weather conditions could improve in the next few days for some regions of the country, however, 135 municipalities continue to suffer from the disaster caused by the entry of a trough and, a week later, the indirect effects of Hurricane Ian. Water continues to cover homes, streets and entire plantations, while some 9,403 families remain in shelters. The rains reported in the country in the last two weeks left a total of 67,750 people affected, according to the last report published by the Permanent Contingencies Commission (Copeco)."

Taiwan donated \$500'000 to help address the emergency.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/aumento-municipios-afectados-emergencia-lluvias-honduras-KL10288534>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/28/taiwan-donara-500-mil-para-atender-a-los-afectados-por-lluvias-en-honduras/>

COPINH published a press release denouncing the delays in the Gualcarque Fraud case (see yesterday).

<https://copinh.org/2022/09/comunicado-justicia-hondurena-sigue-dando-largas-al-caso-fraude-sobre-el-gualcarque/>

"The persecution against the Lenca Indigenous Council of Nueva Palestina, municipality of San José in the department of La Paz, was shown this Saturday, September 24, when the National Police illegally detained the leader of this organization, Valentín Gonzales Aguilar."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1540-sigue-la-persecucion-politica-contra-la-comunidad-indigena-de-nueva-palestina>

OACNUDH sent a mission to the San Francisco de Locomap Tolupán tribe. "The Office calls on the competent authorities to take urgent action to guarantee the life and safety of human rights defenders threatened in the area."

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHNN/status/1575245023301537809>

The PGR recently asked Congress to present a way forward to same-sex marriage (see yesterday). But congressional secretary Luz Angélica Smith reacted by stating that the wish by the PGR is not binding.

Human rights scholar Joaquín Mejía explains in ten points why same-sex marriage should be legal in Honduras.

The National Party, meanwhile, voices its rejection.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/29/correspondencia-de-la-pgr-no-es-vinculante-y-no-es-parte-de-la-agenda-legislativa-luz-angelica-smith/>

<https://criterio.hn/un-decalogo-sobre-el-matrimonio-igualitario-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/partido-nacional-se-pronuncia-en-contra-del-matrimonio-igualitario-en-honduras/>

Honduras Now linked to additional information by Sandra Cuffe about history of the CNA pertinent to the current Fonac-CNA-discussion (see last two days). "The CNA explicitly presents itself as a civil society group. "We're not the government." It's not quite that clear-cut. The CNA was created by a law (07-2005) that gives it access to officials & mandates working with the gov't to implement a national anti-corruption strategy. The CNA is run by representatives from 12 groups. The main organization of the country's business and economic elite is among them, as are top evangelical and catholic reps, and a mish-mash of workers' and other groups, some with a long history of working with the state. The Honduran Council of Private Enterprise (COHEP) is part of the CNA. COHEP is the leading private sector organization in the country. It has dozens of member groups representing every kind of interest: maquilas, private security, banks, media, mining, energy, you name it. The CNA is so full of powerful business and political interests that it's almost hard to think of an institution worse positioned to do any kind of impartial investigation into corruption networks in #Honduras. Treat any uncritical news about it with, well, a whole salt mine." This was from 2018. Honduras Now adds that the CNA started to be more critical of the JOH regime, but only very late and when several U.S.-funded media and organizations began turning against the dictatorship.

Yesterday we saw also a confrontation between the head of Fonac and former JOH ally Omar Rivera and Secretary of the President Rodolfo Pastor. "From Fonac you fulfilled a role in which you collaborated with the previous regime (...) you were collaborating with a regime that by then was authoritarian and corrupt, whose criminal links were already known and widespread. You were collaborating with a narco-dictatorship".

But as yesterday, it is worrisome to report that the CNA present itself as a victim of the new administration choosing historically-loaded words. CNA director Gabriela Castellanos speaks of a "planned coup d'état against the fight against corruption".

<https://criterio.hn/distintos-sectores-coinciden-en-que-fonac-debe-desaparecer/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1575135171967328257>

<https://www.tunota.com/honduras-hoy/articulo/omar-rivera-fonac-rodolfo-pastor-estabas-colaborando-narcodictadura-2022-09-28>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1575150912343085056>

<https://proceso.hn/campana-de-desprestigio-al-cna-planifica-un-golpe-de-estado-a-la-lucha-contra-la-corrupcion-gabriela-castellanos/>

<https://twitter.com/GCastellanosL/status/1575165678608273408>

Adrienne Pine has an important update on the labor struggle at the new US embassy construction site.

<https://twitter.com/adriennepine/status/1575111074432487424>

"For reporting that the municipal councilman of Roatan, Bay Islands, Octavio Rodas, was delinquent with the payment of municipal taxes, the social communicator and owner of the television channel, Roatan Hable Claro (RHC tv), Rigoberto Damas Torres, faces a criminal trial, accused of the crimes of slander and libel."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/alertas/procesos-legales/1539-juicio-por-difamacion-e-injurias-enfrenta-comunicador-por-informar-sobre-morosidad-en-pago-de-impuestos-de-regidor-en-roatan>

The Nomination Board for the election of the Supreme Court judges met yesterday for a three-day meeting to define its internal regulations, work plan, functionality and the technical secretariat.

https://twitter.com/Congreso_HND/status/1575221983851053056

"The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) announced Wednesday the approval of a US\$195 million loan to Honduras to strengthen accountability and increase public transparency."

<https://proceso.hn/bid-aprueba-195-millones-de-dolares-a-honduras-para-aumentar-la-transparencia/>

Crterio reports on the recent meeting between a delegation of the Xiomara administration and the IMF. They discussed, among other things, the elimination of tax exemptions.

<https://criterio.hn/fmi-y-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-deben-apuntar-a-un-acuerdo-con-nueva-formula/>

<https://proceso.hn/bcie-y-sieca-presentan-diagnostico-para-reglamentar-y-desarrollar-proyectos-ferroviarios-en-ca/>

29/09/22

Honduras Daily. Drug Trafficking - JOH; Femicide - Keyla; Judicial Power; ZEDEs - US; Corruption - Invest-H; IMF; Japan; But a Savior for the US?

El Libertador reports that JOH's brother Tony Hernández, himself imprisoned in the US, will testify during JOH's trial.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/09/29/confirmado-tony-sera-testigo-en-juicio-de-joh/>

The femicide trial of Keyla Martínez (see previous days) cannot conclude until the Supreme Court resolves the appeals filed against the reclassification of the crime of femicide to simple homicide.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/caso-keyla-familia-exige-a-la-csj-que-resuelva-los-amparos-pendientes-para-que-el-tribunal-de-sentencias-de-fallo-contr-a-policia-acusado-del-femicidio/>

<https://proceso.hn/juicio-oral-del-caso-de-keyla-martinez-entra-en-receso-por-recurso-de-amparo-pendiente/>

COHEP was chosen, by four votes against three, to take up the Technical Secretariat at the Nomination Board for the selection of the Supreme Court judges. Radio Progreso writes about "a questionable vote".

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/en-cuestionada-votacion-secretaria-tecnica-de-la-junta-nominadora-es-designada-al-cohep/>

A US embassy representative met a delegation from the ZEDE Próspera which Honduran Foreign Minister Enrique Reina rightly criticizes. "Creating jobs and investment is important, but in clean legal frameworks. The Zedes are the biggest legal aberration that emerged from a narco-state that came to power with fraud. What is born contaminated does not generate a good image."

<https://twitter.com/EnriqueReinaHN/status/1575664305009135617>

<https://proceso.hn/ministro-consejero-de-eeuu-se-reune-con-representantes-de-honduras-prospera/>

"The Court of Appeals in corruption matters ordered the revocation of the substitutive measures replacing them with the preventive imprisonment of former officials of Inversión Estratégica de Honduras (Invest-H) for the case of the purchase of masks."

<https://proceso.hn/revocan-medidas-y-ordenan-prision-a-exfuncionarios-de-invest-h-por-compra-de-mascarillas/>

An IMF delegation met with the congressional Budget Commission.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/29/fmi-y-diputados-se-reunen-para-abordar-la-posibilidad-de-llegar-a-un-acuerdo-con-el-pais/>

"The Undersecretary of Security, Julissa Villanueva, held a meeting with the Ambassador of Japan, Nakara Jun, in which they discussed the Kyoto Declaration on Promoting Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: towards the fulfillment of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/09/29/embajador-de-japon-y-subsecretaria-de-seguridad-muestran-interes-de-apoyar-a-honduras-en-prevencion-del-delito/>

<https://proceso.hn/ministro-de-planificacion-arremete-contra-embajadora-de-eeuu-le-refuta-que-en-honduras-no-existe-vicepresidente/>

30/09/2022

Honduras Daily: HRDs; US; Corruption - CICIH; Judicial Power; Climate Crisis - Rains; and Inclusive Development

Global Witness documented 8 murders of environmental defenders in Honduras in 2021.

<https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/decade-defiance/>

US-Honduran relations became a bit more strained again these last days after a meeting between US ambassador Laura F. Dogu with presidential designate Salvador Nasralla (see first link) which she wrongly called vice-president. Nasralla and Zelaya have been in a public dispute for weeks. Then, a embassy representative also met with a delegation from the ZEDE Próspera (see last days). Foreign Minister called the US out on it and doubled down yesterday by denouncing "interference in domestic political matters".

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/platicamos-no-se-mira-intencion-cambiar-rumbo-honduras-salvador-nasralla-reunion-embajadora-laura-dogu-NA10323295>

<https://twitter.com/EnriqueReinaHN/status/1575830078054875136>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/30/canciller-solicita-a-embajadora-dogu-no-realizar-acciones-de-injerencia/>

<https://criterio.hn/relaciones-diplomaticas-entre-eeuu-y-honduras-se-resquebrajan/>

<https://proceso.hn/en-nuevo-intercambio-de-tuit-con-canciller-reina-embajadora-dogu-defiende-reunion-con-personeros-de-zede-prospera/>

"Negotiations between the United Nations (UN) and the Government, with a view to installing an International Commission against Corruption and Impunity (CICI) in Honduras, are continuing. Both parties expect the memorandum of understanding to be signed before the end of 2022."

<https://criterio.hn/memorando-de-entendimiento-la-cicijh-apunta-a-estar-concluido-antes-de-finalizar-2022/>

Criterio has more on the situation at the Nomination Board for the selection of the Supreme Court judges (see yesterday).

<https://criterio.hn/con-polemica-la-secretaria-tecnica-de-la-junta-nominadora-recayo-en-el-cohep/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/09/30/exponen-que-legislativo-aun-no-designa-presupuesto-a-la-junta-nominadora/>

The Council on Foreign Relations published a report on "Climate Change and Regional Instability in Central America - Prospects for Internal Disorder, Human Mobility, and Interstate Tensions".

<https://www.cfr.org/report/climate-change-and-regional-instability-central-america>

Red alert has been extended for another 48 hours in the municipalities around the Ulúa river.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/extienden-alerta-roja-municipios-aledanos-rio-ulua-lluvias-inundaciones-honduras-GD10314460>

"People with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable groups in Honduras. Currently, their representatives are advocating for a law to establish the rights that the State must comply with, in order to generate inclusion, combating discrimination and inequality."

<https://criterio.hn/con-propuesta-de-ley-de-desarrollo-inclusivo-exigen-cumplir-derechos-de-personas-con-discapacidad/>