

02/10/22

Honduras Daily: Corruption - CICIH; Migration - Deportations; Elderly; Drug Trafficking - Extraditions; and Drop by Drop

"The Secretary of the Presidency Rodolfo Pastor stated that despite the fact that the negotiation process with the United Nations (UN) for the installation of the mission against corruption, it has taken longer than expected. He indicated that what is still pending is to reach an agreement on how the International Commission against Corruption in Honduras (CICIH) will be formed."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/02/secretario-de-la-presidencia-reconoce-que-el-proceso-de-la-ciclh-se-ha-alargado/>

"The complaints against undue charges made to migrants passing through Honduras, whose rights have been strongly violated in Honduras by military, police, civilians and employees of various government ministries, continue to occur left and right. In one of the videos captured by migrants, they expose agents of the Honduran Institute of Land Transportation (IHTT) making irregular charges to Venezuelan migrants, who demand an explanation for this interference, after the government ordered to eliminate the charge for safe conduct (USD 261) and let them pass respecting their human rights."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-al-instituto-de-transporte-por-cobros-indebidos-a-migrantes-de-paso/>

"As a result of the expiration of the Stay in Mexico program, this country and Guatemala have returned more than 600 migrants in the last few days, most of them Hondurans, according to Human Rights defender Itsmania Platero. Data from the Consular and Migratory Observatory of Honduras (CONMIGHO), estimates that the number of Honduran returnees in the world from January to September 25 of this year is 72,111."

<https://criterio.hn/vencimiento-de-programa-quedate-en-mexico-acelera-numero-de-retornados-a-territorio-hondureno/>

"Some 4,000 older adults reported to the National Commissioner for Human Rights (Conadeh), to be victims of multiple violations of their human rights, between 2019 and August 2022, according to data from the Statistics Unit of that state entity."

<https://proceso.hn/unos-4-mil-adultos-mayores-denunciaron-violaciones-a-sus-ddhh-en-ultimos-3-anos-en-honduras/>

La Prensa reports that there are at least 20 pending extradition requests from the US.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/hay-20-solicitudes-de-extradicion-pendientes-de-ser-ejecutadas-en-honduras-KH10351821>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/la-intervencion/>

03/10/22

Honduras Daily: IACtHR - HRDs; Extractivism; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Electricity; Corruption - Fonac; EU; Migration; and Writing Public Letters

"The Inter-American Court of Human Rights, IACtHR, sentenced the State of Honduras for serious human rights violations in the crime against communist leader Herminio Deras García, which occurred in January 1983. The reparation measures contemplate different aspects among them a mausoleum in the name of the victim, punishment for all those responsible and pecuniary measures, according to the hearing held this October 03, 2022."

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/monitoreo/114-39-anos-despues-del-crimen-del-dirigente-comunista-herminio-deras-estado-de-honduras-fue-declarado-culpable-en-la-corteidh>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/honduras-es-responsable-por-la-ejecucion-extrajudicial-de-herminio-deras-garcia/>

"The coordinator of the Justice for the Peoples Law Firm, Edy Tabora, participated in a series of meetings in New York, Virginia and Washington D.C., in which he exposed the pattern of systematic attacks used by the government against communities defending territory in Honduras."

<https://criterio.hn/exponen-en-ee-uu-patron-de-ataques-sistematicos-favorables-al-despojo-en-honduras/>

El Heraldo spoke with deputy attorney general Daniel Sibrián on why the MP had never charged JOH. His claim, there was never sufficient proof...

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/mp-nunca-hubo-pruebas-suficientes-contr-a-juan-orlando-hernandez-denuncias-KH10352787>

The Xiomara administration renegotiated 16 energy contracts.

They also continue to spend some 800 millions to subsidize energy prices.

<https://proceso.hn/renegociacion-de-contratos-energeticos-generara-leves-beneficios/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/03/ningun-sector-se-vera-afectado-por-el-13-por-ciento-de-subsidio-a-la-energia/>

As a follow-up on the discussions about the disappearance of Fonac (see last week), Criterio published a portrait of its director, Omar Rivera. "Some say that there is no morality in politics, that chameleonism can serve as a survival strategy, and that morality can mutate and adapt to the environment. This could be described as the profile of the controversial civil society leader, Omar Rivera, who claims not to follow party lines or bend to the power of the day, but whose biography proves the opposite."

<https://criterio.hn/omar-rivera-de-defender-la-cuarta-urna-en-2009-a-servirle-al-narcogobierno-de-joh/>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/10/03/una-sociedad-civil-defensora-de-la-crisis-y-murio-party-time-del-fonac/>

"In order to present the situation in the country and the challenges faced by the government of President Xiomara Castro, a Honduran delegation had a special audience with Members of Parliament at the headquarters of the European Union (EU) in Brussels, Belgium."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/03/gobierno-de-honduras-fortalece-relaciones-con-el-parlamento-europeo/>

"A Venezuelan migrant shared on his TikTok account a video showing the aggression he suffered at the hands of several National Police officers, who were allegedly asking for money to let them pass through the border between Honduras and Guatemala."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/03/policias-hondurenos-agreden-a-migrantes-en-frontera-con-guatemala-subsecretaria-de-seguridad-julissa-villanueva-asegura-se-esta-investigando-video/>

<https://tiempo.hn/carta-de-julieta-castellanos-contr-gobierno-de-libre/>

<https://tiempo.hn/reacciones-carta-de-julieta-castellanos-relacion-joh/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1577169046499647488>

04/10/22

Honduras Daily: HR-Situation; Rains - UNHCR, Climate Crisis; Femicide - Keyla; Political Prisoners; FoE; LGBTQ+; CNDS; Judicial Power; Passports; Extortion; and JOH's Horses Once More

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

foro_honduras_suiza@riseup.net

https://honduras-forum.ch/?smd_process_download=1&download_id=46147

There is an 80% chance for the formation of a cyclone whose consequences could gravely affect Honduras.

The Xiomara administration has transferred 600 million Lempiras to the communities affected by last week's rain.

Radio Progreso reports on the situation in several communities in El Progreso which were heavily affected by the rains.

Honduras and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) signed an agreement aimed at strengthening the response to emergencies.

<https://twitter.com/jeffgernst/status/1577474513968635904>

<https://www.radiohrn.hn/onda-tropical-70-por-ciento-convertirse-ciclon-honduras-centroamerica-lluvia-2022-10-04>

<https://proceso.hn/meteoros-a-la-vista-amenazan-una-vulnerable-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/04/gobierno-adelanta-600-millones-a-municipios-afectados-por-lluvias/>

<https://radioprogreso.net/portada/destruccion-desolacion-y-abandono-dejan-inundaciones-en-el-progreso/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/04/honduras-y-acnur-fortaleceran-atencion-a-personas-afectadas-por-emergencias/>

"In Honduras, the effects of climate change affect 90% of the population on a daily basis, which accentuates the need for real solutions from the authorities in the discussion of public policies in favor of the environment in a country with a wide diversity of ecosystems. Journalists for the Planet (PxP) and the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) in Costa Rica are joining forces to provide journalists in the region with tools to cover stories on ecosystem restoration and climate change."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/10/04/cambiando-la-narrativa-hablar-de-crisis-climatica-desde-una-optica-centroamericana/>

UN representative Alice Shackelford and OACNUDH called for justice for Keyla Martínez. Her case is currently stalled in front of the courts due to a pending appeal (see last week).

<https://proceso.hn/onu-reitera-llamado-de-justicia-por-caso-de-keyla-martinez/>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1577437215747366913>

Some hopeful news from Honduras Now. "Police finally arrest Santamaria Corrales Osorto who almost stabbed political prisoner Raúl Álvarez to death in 2020. Alvarez lost an eye & has never fully recovered. The attack was believed to be politically-motivated. Osorto will go before a judge this afternoon".

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1577384861740175361>

ConexiHon reports on the fear of criminalization of journalists due to libel laws and the resulting self-censorship.

<http://www.conexihon.hn/index.php/libertad-de-expresion/2023-consolida-la-autocensura-por-la-criminalizacion-a-periodistas-en-honduras>

Criterio reports on hate speech against the LGBTQ+ community coming from the National Party.

<https://criterio.hn/partido-nacional-continua-discursos-de-odio-hacia-comunidad-lgtbiq/>

Proceso Digital reports that Congress plans to restart talks on the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS) today, during the Morazán holidays.

<https://proceso.hn/cn-discutira-ley-de-defensa-y-seguridad-en-plenas-vacaciones-morazanicas/>

According to the lawyer Héctor Pérez, for the first time Supreme Court candidates have to fulfill several requisites which leads to a narrower, but hopefully more qualified field of candidates.

Human Rights Watch published a press release on the Supreme Court election in Honduras. "'While the rule of law is falling into pieces throughout Central America, Honduras can stand out by strengthening judicial independence through the selection of new Supreme Court justices based on merit," said César Muñoz, senior Americas researcher at Human Rights Watch. "President Castro should reject the temptation of selecting a Supreme Court pliant to her own interests and those of political parties, including her own."'"

<https://tiempo.hn/candidatos-a-magistrados-se-retiraran-exceso-requisitos/>

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/10/04/honduras-select-supreme-court-based-merit>

"The authorities of the National Institute of Migration of Honduras announced at a press conference (...) an international public tender for the acquisition of new passports."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/04/migracion-lanza-licitacion-para-millon-y-medio-de-pasaportes-electronicos/>

"A report into extortion in the Northern Triangle -- Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador -- has shed light on how incarceration policies are likely to worsen extortion problems in the region. The extortion industry in the Northern Triangle is now worth at least \$1.1 billion annually, according to Global Financial Integrity's Extortion in the Northern Triangle of Central America: Following the Money report which was released in September."

<https://insightcrime.org/news/extortion-northern-triangle/>

<https://proceso.hn/documentos-de-oabi-senala-que-diputado-de-libre-compro-caballos-de-joh-el-dice-que-fue-su-hermano/>

05/10/22

Honduras Daily; Rains; COPINH; HRDs; Xiomara; Corruption - Congress, Palmerola, CICIH; CNDS; Migration - US; IMF; National Police; and a Dignified Foreign Policy

COPECO warns that Honduras could be hit by category 1 hurricane in the next five days.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/advertencia-huracan-categoria-1-honduras-martes-FK10381664>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/10/05/preparese-aumenta-probabilidad-que-invest-evolucion-a-huracan/>

COPINH informs about an upcoming trial against a former member of the Armed Forces, Kevin Saravia, held responsible for attempted murder of indigenous Lenca leader Alan García in 2013 in Río Blanco.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1577718223260327936>

"Osmán Suazo Mungía, human rights defender and coordinator of the Organized Social Movement (MOSO), denounced that the members of this organization, made up of thirty civil society organizations in the Honduran Caribbean, are victims of persecution, stigmatization and restrictions on their freedom of expression by journalists and media outlets controlled by the municipality of La Ceiba Atlántida."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1543-movimiento-social-organizado-denuncia-restricciones-a-su-libertad-de-expresion-por-medios-controlados-por-la-alcaldia-de-la-ceiba-3>

According to a new CID Gallup poll, president Xiomara has an approval rating of 65%, 1% more than in May.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/fotogalerias/honduras/hondurenos-aprueban-gestion-de-la-presidenta-xiomara-castro-segun-cid-gallup-BK10382120>

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/10/05/mas-de-la-mitad-de-hondurenos-respaldan-gobierno-castro-cid-gallup/>

"Eight months after the installation of the current Board of Directors of the National Congress, Decree 116-2019, which has fostered impunity and has shielded several corrupt legislators in Honduras, has still not been repealed due to lack of consensus among the different benches. It has only been discussed in its first two debates and, according to pro-government deputies, the required 86 votes still need to be reached."

<https://criterio.hn/quienes-son-los-responsables-de-que-el-congreso-no-derogue-decretos-que-fomentan-la-impunidad/>

Almost 50 days have passed since the visit of a congressional commission investigating the concession and construction of the Palmerola airport but the report is still unknown.

<https://criterio.hn/palmerola-un-espejismo-enganoso-que-cambio-el-discurso-de-la-comision-que-lo-investiga/>

"The president of the Congress of the People, Luis Redondo, expressed that once the International Commission against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (CICIH) is installed, both the officials and the beneficiaries of illicit acts must be investigated. "There cannot be corrupt without corrupters, both the public official who betrays the trust of the people and profits from the treasury is guilty, as well as the one who receives bribes and lends himself to the flow of corruption in the country", he stated."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/05/redondo-expone-que-la-cicih-debe-investigar-a-funcionarios-y-a-quienes-aceptan-sobornos/>

The planned congressional session on the CNDS (see yesterday) could not take place due to a lack of attendance.

<https://proceso.hn/por-falta-de-quorum-cn-suspende-sesion-y-convoca-para-el-proximo-martes/>

"A federal appeals court Wednesday ordered a lower court review of Biden administration revisions to a program preventing the deportation of hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought into the United States as children. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said a federal district judge in Texas should take another look at the program following the revisions adopted in August. The ruling, for now, leaves the future of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals up in the air."

<https://www.npr.org/2022/10/05/1127107147/an-appeals-court-rules-against-daca-but-the-program-continues-for-now>

An IMF delegation concluded a 10-day visit to Honduras.

<https://tiempo.hn/mision-del-fmi-finaliza-este-dia-su-visita-a-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/05/fmi-finaliza-su-visita-a-honduras-para-evaluar-el-comportamiento-de-la-economia/>

89 purged members of the police were reintegrated into the force.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/05/reintegran-a-mas-de-80-policias-depurados/>

<https://www.latribuna.hn/2022/10/05/la-politica-exterior-basada-en-la-dignidad-lo-que-algunos-no-entienden-ni-practicaron-nunca/>

06/10/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Corruption - UFERCO, Congress; OAS;

Copeco expect a tropical cyclone to hit Honduras on Monday.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/honduras-ciclon-tropical-ingresaria-como-depresion-tropical-el-proximo-lunes-NL10397831>

<https://criterio.hn/proximo-lunes-ingresaria-depresion-tropical-a-honduras/>

"Two co-defendants of former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández pleaded guilty Thursday in a New York federal court, in a dramatic turnaround in the case against the ex-president

on drug trafficking and weapons charges. The Guatemalan cousins, Ronald and Otto Salguero, had initially pleaded not guilty. Their change of plea is a blow to Hernandez, as it strengthens the government's overall case involving multiple co-defendants, several of whom have also pleaded guilty. Two others were found guilty at trial, including Hernandez's brother, Juan Antonio Hernandez."

<https://www.univision.com/univision-news/united-states/codefendants-in-drug-case-of-honduran-ex-president-hernandez-change-plea-to-guilty>

<https://proceso.hn/capos-guatemaltecos-se-declaran-culpables-en-eeuu-ambos-figuran-en-expediente-de-joh/>

UFERCO's Luis Santos calls on the current administration to do more against corruption. "If high impact cases remain in IMPUNITY, including those of JOH: there would be a responsibility of the government of JOH and the current one: since, there has been enough time to repeal Decrees, approve the Budget and require the MP to allocate sufficient human resources, and this has not been done."

https://twitter.com/Luis_Santos_C/status/1577796000663601156

<https://proceso.hn/fiscal-santos-cuestiona-al-actual-gobierno-por-no-dar-visos-de-luchar-contr-la-corrupcion/>

According to congressional president Luis Redondo, Congress has been corruption-free under his presidency.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/06/luis-redondo-asegura-que-durante-su-gestion-ningun-diputado-ha-cometido-actos-de-corrupcion/>

<https://proceso.hn/luis-redondo-afirma-que-no-ha-habido-actos-de-corrupcion-en-su-gestion-al-frente-del-cn/>

Deputy Foreign Minister Gerardo Torres represented Honduras at the general assembly of the OAS. "Today we are at this table to reclaim our space, which is the space of the people of Honduras who never stopped fighting and with democracy and active and peaceful citizen participation defeated a narco-dictatorship." He also highlighted the problematic role the OAS played in Honduras since the coup d'état.

<https://proceso.hn/vicecanciller-hondureno-acusa-a-oea-de-avaluar-comicios-irregulares-en-su-pais/>
07/10/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; Drug Trafficking; ZEDEs – US;

The tropical storm Julia is now expected to hit Honduras already on Sunday.

As a preventive measure, the El Cajón dam will start releasing water today.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/honduras-tormenta-julia-ingresara-domingo-territorio-nacional-como-depresion-tropical-huracan-FE10411004>

<https://twitter.com/jeffgernst/status/1578456296101015552>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/descargas-preventivas-represa-el-cajon-julia-huracan-honduras-tormenta-tropical-HF10409196>

Drug trafficker Juan Ramón Matta Waldurraga was extradited from Colombia to Honduras. He had been imprisoned for two years in the US for drug trafficking, then went to Colombia, where he was imprisoned again in 2019. In Honduras, he is accused of money laundering.

A judge sent his case to trial with the initial hearing taking place already next week.

Honduras Now reports on the judge assigned to the case. "Claudio Aguilar, the judge assigned to Ramón Matta's case is probably just as much or more of a criminal than Matta. Aguilar has several complaints filed against him (that the Attorney General doesn't move or investigate). Aguilar & his father were very pro-dictatorship".

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/07/honduras-repatria-a-juan-ramon-matta-waldurraga-preso-en-colombia-por-lavado-de-activos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/08/dictan-detencion-judicial-para-ramon-matta-waldurraga-extraditado-de-colombia-por-lavado-de-activos/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1578497323323523072>

CEPR reports on the contradictory role of the US when it comes to the ZEDEs in Honduras.

"Xiomara Castro, the president of Honduras, won a major victory for democracy earlier this year when Congress repealed the country's Zonas de Empleo y Desarrollo Económico law (ZEDE, or

“Economic Development and Employment Zones” in English). The legislation enabled the creation of special governance zones, which have “functional and administrative autonomy” from the national government. The zones allowed investors to create their own governance systems, regulations, and courts, providing room for experimentation with privatized government to create a “legal environment adequate ... to be competitive at the international level.” This policy was highly controversial, earning the opposition of Honduran labor unions, campesinos, Indigenous organizations, and even the nation’s largest business groups. As described by the US State Department, the zones “were broadly unpopular, including with much of the private sector, and viewed as a vector for corruption.” When President Castro proposed abolishing the policy, the Honduran legislature repealed it unanimously. The Biden administration has argued that corruption is one of the largest barriers to development in Central America. The Biden administration’s “U.S. Strategy for Addressing the Root Causes of Migration in Central America” promises to “[p]rioritize an anticorruption agenda” But when this goal conflicts with others, like promoting US investment, which is more important? A recent report from the State Department criticizing President Castro for eliminating the ZEDE law suggests that private interests take priority over public transparency and accountability."

<https://cepr.net/why-is-the-us-condemning-honduras-for-fighting-corruption/>

08/10/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; Corruption - UFERCO; Demilitarization; and a Troublesome Past

Hurricane Julia hit Nicaragua during the night. Honduras feels its effect on the Pacific coast.

Copeco declared yellow alert for all Honduras.

There are first floods and people are being displaced and evacuated.

President Xiomara called on the Honduran people on Twitter: "Since September 28 we declared an emergency, and our best technicians along with mayors, ministers, we face with responsibility, the lack of mitigation works and the onslaught of #HurricaneJulia; I ask God's protection and the people to comply with the instructions of authorities."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/en-vivo-minuto-a-minuto-huracan-julia-nicaragua-honduras-KH10421658>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/08/copeco-decreta-alerta-amarilla-en-todo-el-territorio-nacional-por-24-horas/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1578922930108784641>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/fotogalerias/inundaciones-desplazamientos-preparativos-primeros-efectos-huracan-julia-honduras-MH10422680>

"The head of the Specialized Prosecutorial Unit against Corruption Networks (Uferco), Luis Javier Santos, stated that some lines of investigation could go unpunished due to lack of audit personnel."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/08/fiscal-senala-que-falta-de-personal-en-uferco-afectaria-lineas-de-investigacion/>

CESPAD published an analysis on the challenge of the Xiomara administration to demilitarize Honduras. "In this sense, this document is part of the Monitoring Project of the Current Situation in the area of Security and Defense carried out by the Center for the Study of Democracy (CESPAD), in order to contribute to the informed debate, recover and advance in the struggle for democratic transformation. And as established by this think tank, in order to support the democratic reforms of the Defense and Security Sector, it is urgent to dismantle the legal and institutional frameworks in these sectors, which were essential pillars of the authoritarian regime. This document contains: the analysis of the context in which the defense sector reform and demilitarization are inserted; the actions and decisions undertaken so far by the government of Xiomara Castro on the issues of demilitarization and defense sector reform; and finally, the challenges to advance in processes that are vital for the democratic strengthening of Honduras."

<https://cespad.org.hn/desmilitarizacion-y-reforma-del-sector-defensa-los-desafios-de-castro-para-revertir-el-autoritarismo-y-fortalecer-la-democracia-en-honduras/>

Pasos de Animal Grande denounces that the Xiomara administration maintains Jackeline Foglia at the National Investment Council (CNI). Foglia was part of the death squad 3-16 and had been nominated by JOH to her current position.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/monitoreo/115-gobierno-de-xiomara-castro-mantiene-en-el-consejo-nacional-de-inversiones-a-jackeline-foglia-ex-integrante-del-escuadron-de-la-muerte-3-16>

09/10/22

Honduras Daily: Rains - Education; and the Wrong Time to Fight

As hurricane Julia hit Nicaragua, the effects in Honduras are being felt.

Copeco declared red alerts in ten departments.

The Chamelecón river in La Lima has reached the highest level so far this year.

The city center started to flood during the night.

At least three people have died.

<https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2022/10/julia-sweeps-onto-nicaraguas-caribbean-coast/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/09/establecen-alerta-roja-para-10-departamentos-del-territorio-hondureno-por-el-huracan-julia/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1579220544125251584>

<https://tiempo.hn/se-inunda-el-centro-de-la-lima/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/portada/tres-muertos-inundaciones-cierre-aeropuerto-honduras-tormenta-julia-NG10432168>

University suspended classes for today.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/sin-clases-unah-upnfm-catolina-lunes-tormenta-julia-KG10431469>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1579328347523649536>

10/10/22

Honduras Daily: Journalists; Rains - SPS, Education; Police; Corruption - Health Sector;

Journalist Edwin Josué Andino was murdered at home in Comayagüela together with his father. According to media reports, men dressed in police uniform are responsible for the murders.

OACNUDH condemned the murders and demanded a swift and thorough investigation.

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/amenazas/116-periodista-y-su-padre-son-asesinados-en-colonia-capitalina-supuestamente-por-hombres-vestidos-de-policias>

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1545-edwin-josue-andino-canaca-es-el-quinto-periodista-asesinado-en-honduras-en-lo-que-va-del-2022>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1579654305329860609>

<https://proceso.hn/la-onu-y-conadeh-piden-a-honduras-investigar-el-asesinato-de-periodista/>

The tropical storm Julia dissipated in Guatemala yesterday but rains will continue throughout today in Honduras. Red alert is maintained in ten departments.

Copeco demands the complete evacuation of part of the Sula Valley.

Julia and the accompanying rain left a path of destruction.

A lot of agricultural land was also destroyed.

744 million Lempiras were transferred from the central government to the affected municipalities.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/tormenta-julia-disipa-lluvias-martes-honduras-KB10443669>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/10/copeco-pide-evacuar-zonas-bajas-del-valle-de-sula/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/devastacion-tormenta-julia-lluvias-intensas-recuento-danos-honduras-GB10440341>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/10/tormenta-tropical-julia-provocaria-perdidas-multimillonarias-en-granos-basicos/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/10/sag-indica-que-tras-reporte-de-las-perdidas-por-las-lluvias-de-julia-se-centrara-en-la-planificacion-y-reconstruccion/>

<https://proceso.hn/finanzas-transfiere-mas-de-l-744-millones-a-153-alcaldias-para-atencion-de-la-emergencia/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/10/gobierno-entrega-ayudas-a-damnificados-de-villanueva-cortes/>

San Pedro Sula declared a climate emergency.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/san-pedro-sula-se-declara-en-emergencia-climatica/>

Classes remain suspended.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/se-mantienen-suspendidas-las-clases-presenciales-se-autoriza-la-modalidad-virtual/>

Two active members of the police, a purged member and a civilian were sent to pre-trial detention accused of kidnapping.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/prision-preventiva-por-secuestro-para-dos-policias-activos-un-policia-depurado-y-un-civil/>

"The Criminal Court in Corruption Matters issued this Monday precautionary measures to the former Secretary of Health, Yolani Batres, accused of fraud and violation of the duties of public servants."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/10/dictan-medidas-cautelares-a-exministra-yolani-batres-acusada-de-fraude-y-violacion-a-los-deberes-de-los-funcionarios/>

11/10/22

Honduras Daily: Rains; Violence against Women; Congress; Catholic Church; Corruption - Collaboration. Security Tax; FoE; Judicial Power;

Rain continues in Honduras, but less intense. Nevertheless, 17 out of 18 departments remain in a state of alert.

Schools should reopen today.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/honduras-seguiran-lluvias-menor-intensidad-tormenta-julia-danos-IA10458505>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/regreso-clases-presenciales-educacion-excepciones-honduras-HA10453206>

"Honduras registered 1,615 complaints of sexual violence against girls, boys and women between January and June 2022, according to data from the non-governmental Women's Rights Center (CDM) consulted Tuesday by EFE."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/11/honduras-registra-1615-denuncias-de-violencia-sexual-contra-mujeres-y-ninez/>

With a press release, the Episcopal Conference of the Catholic Church of Honduras reopened the discussion about the legality of the congressional leadership (see discussions back in February).

Libre congresswoman Scherly Arriaga denounced this. "Arriaga, who is one of the vice presidents of the National Congress (CN), considers that she has the impression that the Episcopal Conference, are misinformed because the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) through the Constitutional Chamber, declared inadmissible an appeal of constitutionality presented against the Board of Directors, presided by Luis Redondo, that is to say that it is a legally discussed issue. "It seems to me that this type of declarations seeks to sabotage and boycott governance, which we are rebuilding after having inherited a plundered country and with a fragile institutional framework, after no institution pronounced itself for the presidential reelection of Juan Orlando Hernandez, I would have liked the Episcopal Conference to have been as energetic", she reproached. She added that the current Legislative Power "is the one that has responded to the expectations of the people by repealing the Law of Secrets, empowered the Uferco to exercise criminal action, and also seeks the installation of the International Commission Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (CICIH), all these needs were denied in the previous 12 years", she added."

<https://proceso.hn/preocupa-a-obispos-de-honduras-legitimidad-o-ilegitimidad-de-junta-directiva-del-congreso/>

President Xiomara will meet Pope Francis on October 20.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/11/el-proximo-20-de-octubre-xiomara-castro-se-reunira-con-el-papa-francisco-en-el-vaticano/>

According to Libre congressman Jari Dixon, next week Congress should be able to discuss the Efficient Collaboration Law, a prerequisite for the installation of a CICIH.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/11/la-proxima-semana-comision-del-legislativo-firmara-dictamen-de-la-ley-de-colaboracion-eficaz/>

Minister of Transparence, Edmundo Orellana, calls for an investigation into the JOH-era Security Tax (tasa de seguridad).

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/11/hay-que-investigar-la-tasa-de-seguridad-porque-una-red-de-corrupcion-la-administro-en-los-ultimos-anos-edmundo-orellana/>

Criterio reports on the approval of a controversial bill. "A controversial executive decree, under which the General Directorate of Information and Press (DGIP) is created, has been approved in

Honduras. Among other aspects, under this regulation, the Government is authorized to monitor and diagnose all media, traditional or alternative, operating in the country. Executive Decree 023-2022, which consists of three articles, was approved by the Council of Ministers on September 16, 2022 and three days later, on September 19, it was published in the official newspaper La Gaceta. (...) Although the Minister of Transparency, Edmundo Orellana, assures that the decree does not pose a risk or show a "pretense of attacking freedom of the press", he does consider that "its creation seemed unnecessary".

<https://criterio.hn/advierten-que-decreto-recientemente-aprobado-podria-alentar-una-concentracion-de-la-informacion-de-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/12/gobierno-crea-direccion-para-monitorear-medios-de-comunicacion-y-alerta-a-la-prensa/>

OACNUDH's Isabel Albaladejo participated in Frente a Frente to discuss the Supreme Court election.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCJ4N5ZM9No>

12/10/22

Honduras Daily: Indigenous Peoples - COPINH; FoE - Congress; Prisons; Rains - Agriculture; Migration - Deportations; Spain; and Patriarchy and Violence at UNAH

Honduras commemorated the Indigenous and Black Peoples Resistance Day.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1580324990771044352>

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1580349405957193733>

COPINH published further information about the upcoming trial against former member of the Armed Forces Kevin Saravia accused of attempted murder against indigenous leader Allan García.

<https://copinh.org/2022/10/el-pueblo-lenca-de-río-blanco-merece-obtener-justicia-en-el-caso-allan-garcia/>

<https://criterio.hn/comunidad-lenca-de-río-blanco-exige-justicia-en-caso-allan-garcia/>

C-Libre published a press release on the recent executive decree which brings to life the General Directorate of Information and Press (see yesterday). "C-Libre calls on the Government of the President, Iris Xiomara Castro Sarmiento, to immediately repeal PCM 023-2022, while demanding actions in accordance with the law for the unrestricted respect of Freedom of Expression, remembering that Freedom of Expression is not a concession of the States, but a fundamental right. Freedom of Expression is fundamental in the consolidation and development of Democracy and the protection of Human Rights and freedom of the press."

Padre Melo also commented on this. "Trying to convince critics with control laws or threats is to fuel polarization. The best way to respond to criticism and attacks is to do things well and with transparency. Opening the wide avenues of free speech and listening will give prestige to the government."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/pronunciamientos/1546-direccion-general-de-informacion-y-prensa-camino-a-la-concentracion-del-discurso-publico-en-honduras>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/advierten-que-direccion-de-informacion-y-prensa-es-una-amenaza-a-la-libertad-de-prensa-y-expresion/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/blog/2022/10/12/leyes-de-control-de-medios-o-amenazas-es-atizar-polarizacion-padre-ismael-moreno/>

At the same time in Congress, there finally seems to be the will to depenalize crimes against honor.

<https://criterio.hn/delitos-contr-el-honor-estan-en-vias-de-ser-despenalizados/>

"The authorities of the National Penitentiary Institute (INP) were questioned by political and social actors after the escape of four inmates from the minimum security penitentiary of El Porvenir, among them, one implicated in the murder of former congresswoman Carolina Echeverría."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/12/cuestionan-al-sistema-penitenciario-tras-espectacular-fuga-de-cuatro-reclusos/>

At least five communities in La Lima, Cortés remain flooded due to the overflowing of the Chamelecón and Ulúa river relief canals.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/comunidades-inundadas-de-la-lima-cortes-reclaman-apoyo-gubernamental/>

INA estimates harvesting losses worth 1.5 billion Lempiras due to the rains.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/12/ina-aproximadamente-11500-millones-son-las-perdidas-en-la-costa-norte/>

"The United Nations announced that it is currently working on a new migration law in conjunction with Honduran authorities, while migration analysts note that there may be a mandate to eliminate charges to migrants, but it has "no teeth"."

<https://criterio.hn/naciones-unidas-anuncia-que-trabajan-en-nueva-ley-de-migracion-analistas-senalan-que-esta-debe-tener-dientes/>

Almost 80'000 Hondurans have been deported so far in 2022.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/honduras-ya-se-acerca-a-los-80-mil-deportados/>

"The Spanish ambassador to Honduras, Diego Nuño García, said Wednesday that the relationship between the two countries is experiencing an "extraordinary moment" and that Spanish cooperation to the Central American nation demonstrates the "firm, selfless and supportive commitment" with the most vulnerable."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/13/relacion-con-honduras-pasa-extraordinario-momento-senala-embajador-de-espana/>

<https://criterio.hn/representante-de-la-comunidad-estudiantil-renuncia-por-violencia-machista-y-patriarcal-en-la-unah/>

13/10/22

Honduras Daily: Judicial Power; ZEDEs - US; FoE; Drug Trafficking - US; Congress; Public Health; Education; UN - Russia; and the Death of Panaco

"The members of the Nominating Board (JN), made the formal call for those who aspire to be elected as magistrates of the new Supreme Court of Justice to apply. However, according to the Law that governs this entity, "All internal regulations and technical instruments must be approved and published prior to the call and receipt of nominations", but none of this has been made public."

The Center for the Study of Democracy (CESPAD), the Due Process of Law Foundation (DPLF) and Lawyers Without Borders Canada (ASFC) announced that they will oversee the process.

<https://cespad.org.hn/sin-reglas-del-juego-definidas-junta-nominadora-convoca-a-aspirantes-a-magistrados-de-la-nueva-corte-suprema-de-justicia-de-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/abogados-y-notarios-comienza-a-autopostularse-como-posibles-candidatos-a-magistrados-de-la-csj/>

<https://proceso.hn/cespad-dplf-y-asfc-anuncian-que-seran-veedores-del-proceso-de-seleccion-de-magistrados-csj/>

US Senators Ben Cardin and Bill Hagerty published a press release in support (!!!) of ZEDEs in Honduras.

Honduran organizations continue to fight against the imposition of ZEDEs and the devastating effects they have. ARCAH just announced that they would present a new legal complaint at the Ministry of Environment against the Duna Residence project by ZEDE Próspera.

<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/press-releases/honduras/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/senadores-istan-departamento-estado-alentar-honduras-respetar-inversion-zede-JN10483785>

<https://criterio.hn/arcah-denuncia-danos-extremos-al-bosque-de-roatan-por-parte-de-prospera/>

Discussions about freedom of press have become more prominent again with the publication of a new executive decree (see last two days). At the same time, there is still a great need to undo some of the attacks on press freedom from the JOH-era. Journalists call on the government to repeal decree 86-2013 more or less openly buys favorable media coverage.

<https://criterio.hn/derogacion-de-ley-de-canje-publicitario-no-puede-seguir-postergandose/>

Former Liberal congressman Fredy Nájera was sentenced in the US to 30 years in prison for drug trafficking.

Honduras extradited another accused drug trafficker to the US, Norlan José Carrasco López.

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/condenan-a-30-anos-de-carcel-a-capo-hondureno-fredy-najera-en-ee-uu-PN10484975>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/fotogalerias/honduras/narcopolitica-carteles-mexicanos-y-millones-de-dolares-fredy-najera-y-su-imperio-de-la-cocaina-AM10491133>

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-extradita-a-norlan-carrasco-el-catracho-a-eeuu/>

"The National Congress denounced this Thursday an alleged aggression by a deputy of the National Party bench against a chamber assistant during this morning's meeting. Through a press release, the Gender Equity Commission pointed out that while an employee was carrying out her duties inside the hemicycle, she was physically assaulted by a congresswoman of the opposition party, resulting in injuries in different parts of her body."

The Nationalist congresswoman Leda García Pagan claimed that the employee was spying on a private meeting.

In the plenary session, Nationalist members of Congress left the session allegedly for "tardiness". Congressional president Luis Redondo threatened to have them disqualified.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/10/13/diputados-cachurecos-hieren-a-empleada-del-congreso-habra-sancion/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/congreso-nacional-denuncia-agresion-diputada-nacionalista-asistente-camara-PN10483581>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/suyapa-figueroa-pide-investigar-presunto-espionaje-altercado-asistente-camara-congreso-AN10487564>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/13/bancada-nacionalista-abonda-sesion-legislativa-redondo-advierte-inhabilitaciones/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/presidente-del-congreso-nacional-amenaza-con-inhabilitar-a-diputados-nacionalistas-por-abandonar-sesion/>

"Between 30 and 40 percent of the country's hospitals and health centers are short of medicines, which makes the recovery of those who visit public health centers on a daily basis precarious."

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/desabastecimiento-de-medicamentos-pone-en-la-mira-al-secretario-de-salud/>

Up to 40% of Honduran children remain outside of the education system.

<https://criterio.hn/40-de-los-jovenes-en-edad-escolar-esta-fuera-del-sistema-educativo-en-honduras/>

Foreign Minister Enrique Reina commented on Honduras' abstention at the UN regarding the illegal Russian annexation of Ukrainian territory. He does not fear negative consequences for Honduras. "He also stated that the government of President Xiomara Castro, considers that the position of Honduras according to the war conflicts should be neutral. He added that "we must call on governments to negotiate and seek peace, because maintaining these wars only benefit the powers or particular interests".

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/13/canciller-reina-asegura-no-habran-consecuencias-por-no-votar-contr-rusia/>

<https://confidencial.hn.com/blog/2022/10/13/respetamos-las-decisiones-de-honduras-dice-alice-shackelford-sobre-abstencion-en-votacion-de-anexion-ilegal-de-territorios-de-ucrania-a-rusia/>

"Cuyamel-Omoa National Park (Panaco), in northern Honduras, which the Forest Conservation Institute (ICF) proposed as a protected area 11 years ago, has been destroyed. Its file was burned in a fire that occurred in the ICF offices. The area that should have been the most conserved is now mostly flooded with African palm crops and, to a lesser extent, king grass. A modification of the park's borders ended up benefiting businessmen who claim to be producers of clean energy at the cost of the disappearance of a site that could have been a very important water reserve for the country."

<https://avispa.org/la-muerte-del-panaco-un-area-protegida-en-honduras-que-nunca-fue/>

14/10/22

Honduras Daily: Femicides; ZEDEs - US; Corruption - Invest-H, OABI; Rains - BCIE; Debt; Armed Forces; and Community Radios against Corruption

More than 7400 women have been murdered in Honduras since 2002, on average one per day. 95% of the cases remain in impunity.

In the recent case of nursing student Keyla Martínez, murdered inside a police station, the trial against a police agent is still stalled by an unresolved amparo request.

Another prominent femicide case made headlines yesterday. Public prosecutor Karen Gabriela Almendárez Herrera was murdered in May. Yesterday, her husband was arrested for ordering her murder. He himself a public prosecutor who back in 2013 was arrested for drug trafficking but somehow got his former position as public prosecutor back.

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-7-400-mujeres-asesinadas-en-honduras-entre-2002-y-2022-una-al-dia/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/caso-keyla-la-policia-la-justicia-el-estado/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/acusaciones-allanamientos-y-capturas-por-el-crimen-de-la-fiscal-karen-almendarez/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/14/dictan-detencion-judicial-contr-fiscal-isai-campo-viudo-de-karen-almendares/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1581030402373783553>

The letter by two US Senators in support of the ZEDEs (see yesterday) continues to make waves.

<https://criterio.hn/aumenta-presion-desde-ee-uu-para-imponer-derogadas-zede/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/14/aclaran-que-la-carta-de-dos-senadores-sobre-zedes-no-es-opinion-de-ee-uu/>

"After the Court of Appeals of the Anticorruption Circuit, on September 29th, ruled in favor of the National Unit of Fiscal Support (UNAF) in the sense of revoking the substitutive measures to five people involved in the millionaire irregular purchase of 474 thousand masks during the COVID-19 pandemic within Inversión Estratégica de Honduras (INVEST-H), an ad-hoc hearing has ended in which their preventive detention was ordered."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/preso-exadministrador-de-invest-h-por-millonario-fraude-en-compra-de-mascarillas-a-los-otros-implicados-les-libran-orden-de-captura/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/14/prision-preventiva-para-alex-moraes-y-ordenan-captura-para-otros-cuatro-exfuncionarios-de-invest-h/>

"The Special Prosecutor's Office for Transparency and Combating Public Corruption (FETCCOP) was notified of the decision of the Criminal Court of Appeals of Francisco Morazán which confirmed the indictment issued on May 23 against the former Executive Director of the Administrative Office of Seized Assets (OABI), Francisco Ernesto Ruiz Nieto."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/14/corte-de-apelaciones-confirma-auto-de-formal-procesamiento-contra-exdirector-de-la-oabi/>

"The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) approved US\$500,000 in emergency and natural disaster assistance to the Republic of Honduras to help meet the immediate and timely needs of Honduran families affected by the torrential rains caused by tropical storm Julia."

<https://proceso.hn/bcie-aprueba-ayuda-de-emergencia-de-500-mil-para-atencion-de-danos-por-la-tormenta-tropical-julia/>

Public debt decreased by 0.28% compared to last year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/14/deuda-publica-de-honduras-baja-0-28-en-8-meses-y-se-situa-en-8990-millones/>

"The Special Prosecutor's Office for Crimes Against Life (FEDCV) obtained the conviction of the artillery captain assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces (FFAA), Said Edgardo Maradiaga Andino, for the crime of murder to the detriment of Marco Tulio Medrano Lemus."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/14/condenan-a-capitan-activo-de-las-fuerzas-armadas-por-asesinato-de-joven-en-sps/>

<https://cespad.org.hn/nace-la-red-de-radios-comunitarias-contr-la-corrupcion-en-honduras-y-se-suma-a-la-demanda-de-la-instalacion-de-una-ciclh-en-el-pais/>

15/10/22

Honduras Daily: Xiomara; Rains; Costa Rica; Prisons; FoE; and CEDAW

The back and forth between Mel Zelaya and Salvador Nasralla took a turn to the worst. In an official interview, Mel declared that he considered the alliance between Nasralla's party PSH and Libre broken by Nasralla by his verbal attacks on president Xiomara.

Nasralla reacts by giving the last word to president Xiomara saying that she would have the final decision to break the alliance.

Similar words from PSH congresswoman Ligia Ramos.

President Xiomara has not reacted so far, but she retweeted the statement by her husband.

CESPAD published an analysis on the governance crisis. "The above elements, as a whole, have determined a fragile institutional framework to address urgent problems such as health, education and infrastructure. Even so, relevant demands of the majority of the electorate have been satisfactorily met, such as the repeal of the ZEDE Law. And some strategic problems have begun to be addressed, such as the process aimed at recovering the Electric Energy Company as a public company and public good, but progress has been slow. However, strategic issues such as agrarian, environmental, indigenous peoples' and women's reproductive rights are still not on the national agenda. And we are still awaiting effective advances in the installation of the CICIH ("international mechanism" against corruption), the repeal of the impunity pacts in the National Congress, the adhesion to the Escazú Agreement, and the approval of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). In spite of all the above, this government continues to represent a great historical opportunity to promote the substantive reforms required by the country to face the serious problem of lack of development, poverty, inequalities and exclusions that affect the great majority of the population. A fact in favor is the high degree of legitimacy that President Castro still has (according to CID GALLUP, 65% positive approval in September). However, it is striking that while the right-wing opposition is regrouping to oppose substantive reforms or to hinder the government's management in general, the civic-democratic space for dialogue, agreement building and formulation of a new generation of public policies in favor of the interests of social organizations and civil society, which were the core of the resistance to the narco-dictatorship, continues to be closed from the government."

<https://twitter.com/gobprensaHN/status/1581127844327231488>

<https://proceso.hn/decision-final-de-romper-la-alianza-la-tiene-xiomara-ella-es-la-presidenta-salvador-nasralla/>

<https://proceso.hn/me-gustaria-saber-si-la-presidenta-castro-tambien-da-por-terminada-la-alianza-pregunta-diputada-del-psh/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/presidenta-castro-retwitteo-declaraciones-mel-alianza-BE10508449>

<https://cespad.org.hn/analisis-semanal-honduras-los-riesgos-actuales-de-gobernabilidad-requieren-una-gestion-publica-mas-eficiente-y-democratica/>

Criterio reports on the situation of those displaced by the rains in the last weeks who still cannot return to their homes.

<https://criterio.hn/los-puentes-el-techo-de-los-afectados-por-julia-en-la-zona-norte-de-honduras/>

"Honduras and Costa Rica signed a cooperation agreement for the development of energy projects of regional benefit to promote electricity modernization, interconnection and geothermal energy."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/16/honduras-y-costa-rica-firma-acuerdo-para-desarrollo-de-proyectos-energeticos/>

The National Penitentiary Institute (INP) announced new plans to reduce the number of inmates.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/15/inp-busca-descongestionar-los-centros-penitenciarios-en-el-pais/>

ContraCorriente also covers last week executive decree which caused a stir (see previous week). "The Executive Branch created the General Directorate of Information and Press, considered by some organizations and congressmen as a potential threat to freedom of the press. The Minister of the Secretariat of Strategic Planning, Ricardo Salgado, denied to Contracorriente that this is the beginning of a dictatorship to control information in Honduras and joined the governmental chorus that repeats that criticism of this law is part of a destabilization campaign against the government of Xiomara Castro."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/10/15/decreto-ejecutivo-abre-polemica-sobre-libertad-de-prensa-en-honduras/>

"An international committee of women's rights experts will review the progress of the State of Honduras in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-a-revision-sobre-progreso-en-implementacion-de-la-cedaw/>

16/10/22

Honduras Daily: Xiomara; Corruption - IHSS; Economy;

A day has passed since the announced rupture of the alliance between Libre and the PSH (see yesterday). Media outlets seem anxious to have president Xiomara react to the statements made by her husband but she has officially still not pronounced herself. Nevertheless, Proceso Digital and others claim that her retweet makes the rupture official. Xiomara is currently in Rome to participate at the FAO and in the Vatican to meet the Pope.

Doris Gutiérrez, designated president for the alliance, representing Pinu-SD, also commented on the situation. She assured that the popular will must prevail because it is sacred. She further stressed that they were elected to govern and work on the problems of Honduras.

The PSH held its general assembly this weekend reelected Rafael Nasralla as its president.

"[Libre] Congressman Jari Dixon Herrera pointed out that although there is a rupture in the ruling party, he hopes that there will be consensus in the next bills. "A pity the rupture of the alliance with the comrades of the Salvador Party of Honduras (PSH), but one thing is theory and another thing is practice, now this does not mean that we cannot continue dialoguing and working on the issues that unite us", he expressed."

COFADEH's Bertha Oliva sees the current situation less rosy and speaks of a pre-coup d'état situation.

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-xiomara-castro-reacciona-a-declaraciones-sobre-fin-de-alianza-con-el-psh/>

<https://proceso.hn/libre-epicentro-de-polemica-celebra-o-lamenta-con-el-psh/>

<https://proceso.hn/ratifican-a-salvador-nasralla-como-presidente-del-psh/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/16/que-panorama-genera-en-el-oficialismo-la-disolucion-de-la-alianza/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/bertha-oliva-es-como-un-ambiente-de-pre-golpe-el-que-estamos-viviendo/>

"The exceptions and nullities raised by the defense of the 14 persons accused of alleged acts of corruption within the Honduran Institute of Social Security (IHSS), were declared "Without Place" by the Sentencing Court with National Jurisdiction in Corruption Matters. With the resolution achieved by the National Unit of Fiscal Support (UNAF), the process advances towards the oral and public trial against Mario Roberto Zelaya Rojas and José Ramón Bertety Osorio, who are allegedly responsible as perpetrators of 14 crimes of violation of the duties of public officials and one crime of money laundering."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/fiscales-con-argumentos-solidos-logran-se-declare-sin-lugar-recursos-de-la-defensa-de-14-personas-acusadas-por-mega fraude-al-ihss/>

The Xiomara administration signed an agreement with Mastercard "to boost the digital economy".

<https://tiempo.hn/mastercard-y-gobierno-acuerdo-economia-digital/>

17/10/22

Honduras Daily: COPINH; Femicide - Keyla; Extractivism - ZEDEs; Xiomara - FAO; Corruption - CICIH; Judicial Power; Women's Rights; Human Trafficking; Poverty - Minimum Wage, Remittances; National Police; and Climate Crisis and Gender

The trial against Armed Forces member Kevin Saravia was suspended. He is accused of attempted murder of COPINH leader Allan García.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1582066507877474305>

"Today, the trial concluded against police officer Jarol Perdomo, accused of murdering Keyla Martinez in police custody in 2021. The verdict won't be announced until Supreme Court rules on an appeal presented by the prosecutors to change charge of homicide to femicide".

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1582221827807776769>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/con-las-conclusiones-se-reanuda-juicio-oral-y-publico-en-el-caso-de-keyla-martinez/>

<https://criterio.hn/caso-de-keyla-martinez-el-rostro-de-la-colusion-dentro-de-las-fuerzas-de-seguridad-y-los-entes-de-justicia/>

"Choloma residents are blocking road to protest contamination caused by Canadian textile company, Gildan & others. These companies are not adequately maintaining their oxidation ponds that mix w/ local water supply during floods & storms. Locals protesting health impacts".

"After about eight hours of protest on the CA-13 highway, which connects Choloma with Puerto Cortés, the busiest port in Honduras, the protesters returned to their homes after at least three large companies promised to meet the needs of the inhabitants and to contribute to the development of the sector."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1582053310395453441>

<https://criterio.hn/bloquean-carretera-choloma-puerto-cortes-en-protesta-por-contaminacion-de-empresas/>

<https://criterio.hn/suspenden-protestas-en-la-carretera-choloma-puerto-cortes-tras-acuerdo-con-empresas/>

Criterio reports on threats by ZEDE Morazán investor Massimo Mazzone against the social movement ARCAH.

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-a-inversor-de-zede-morazan-por-amenazas-contra-arcas/>

Congressional president and PSH member Luis Redondo called for a private meeting with Salvador Nasralla to follow-up on the announced rupture of the PSH-Libre alliance (see previous days and first link below). Redondo states that he does not agree with recent statements by Nasralla.

PSH members of Congress called for an emergency meeting.

Meanwhile attacks between Libre and PSH continue.

Radio Progreso fears that the current situation jeopardizes governability.

<https://criterio.hn/alianza-entre-psh-y-libre-parece-haber-llegado-a-su-fin/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/luis-redondo-mensaje-declaraciones-salvador-nasralla-conflicto-libre-IH10534840>

<https://tiempo.hn/luis-redondo-pide-reunion-a-salvador-nasralla/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/bancada-psh-convoca-reunion-emergencia-postura-oficial-alianza-psh-libre-salvador-nasralla-xiomara-castro-honduras-FH10533622>

<https://tiempo.hn/confrontacion-entre-libre-psh-ruptura-alianza/>

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/ruptura-de-la-alianza-libre-psh-pone-en-peligro-gobernabilidad/>

President Xiomara held a speech at the FAO. "There is a lot of hypocrisy in this world, when we pretend that poverty and hunger have nothing to do with the insane violence of the first world's financial military industrial-financial complex who are not interested in peace."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/presidenta-xiomara-castro-en-foro-de-la-fao-estoy-comprometida-a-fortalecer-la-lucha-contr-la-inseguridad-alimentaria-la-corrupcion-e-impunidad/>

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/presidenta-xiomara-castro-abogo-en-fao-por-modelo-alternativo-al-capitalismo/>

CESPAD presents the coming discussion about the Efficient Collaboration Law, a law once called for by the now extinct MACCIH, as a litmus test for Congress.

<https://cespad.org.hn/ley-de-colaboracion-eficaz-prueba-de-fuego-para-el-congreso-nacional-de-honduras/>

"The United Nations Organization (UN) is concerned about the misinformation that has been generated during the last few months regarding the possible installation of an International Commission against Corruption and Impunity (CICIH) in Honduras. The process, according to the international organization, is advancing normally. The UN resident coordinator in Honduras, Alice Shackelford, told Criterio.hn that there are voices trying to distort the process in question."

<https://criterio.hn/a-la-onu-le-preocupa-desinformacion-en-torno-a-posible-llegada-de-la-cici-a-honduras/>

"The Nominating Board for the Nomination of Candidates for Magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ), confirmed on Monday that it has not received a single application from lawyers who want to apply to join the Honduran Judiciary. In a broad statement, the Nominating Committee informed about the actions developed one month after having been nominated by the various sectors to choose 45 experts in law that they believe are the best to aspire to form the new Court for the next seven years (2023-2030)."

<https://proceso.hn/junta-nominadora-no-ha-recibido-solicitud-de-abogados-para-postularse-a-magistrado-de-la-corte-suprema/>

"The National Commissioner for Human Rights (Conadeh), Blanca Izaguirre, suggested this Monday that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) recommend the elimination of the ban on the use and sale of the emergency contraceptive pill (ECP)."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/conadeh-sugiere-al-cedaw-que-pida-a-honduras-eliminar-prohibicion-del-uso-de-la-pae/>

An inter-institutional committee on human trafficking seeks to reform the Penal Code increasing the penalties for the crime.

<https://tiempo.hn/plantean-reformar-articulos-del-codigo-penal/>

"Violence against women is one of the many problems that has skyrocketed in recent years in Honduras, a situation for which organized groups of feminist women have requested for a couple of years the creation of shelters or centers that serve as refuge, but so far this request has not been echoed by the Honduran authorities."

<https://criterio.hn/honduras-continua-con-la-deuda-de-la-creacion-de-casas-refugio-para-mujeres-victimas-de-violencia/>

"Three labor federations call on President Xiomara to create a negotiating table to adjust the minimum-wage & benefits to address the high cost of living in Honduras."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1582054228255682568>

Remittances sent to Honduras increased by over 20.4% compared to the previous year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/las-remesas-enviadas-a-honduras-suben-un-20-4-de-enero-a-septiembre-de-2022/>

"Prosecutor's office presents an indictment against 4 police that killed Wilson Pérez, a soccer fan who assaulted a police officer during a soccer game in May. Pérez was denounced publicly, followed to his home & killed. Police accused of cover up, torture & other crimes. Today, a court in San Pedro Sula ordered pre-trial detention for sub-commissioner Carlos Roberto Escobar while he waits his initial hearing & conditionally released the other three police officers charged with fewer offences."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1582051395305623552>

"Honduras is considered one of the countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change; however, these effects do not affect the entire Honduran population to the same extent. Women are at greater risk of being victims of exploitation, human trafficking, and sexual and domestic violence during natural disasters. Both rural women in the north of the country and women living in shelters in the Central District have developed resilience as the consequences of climate change and the country's social vulnerability worsen year after year."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/10/17/mujeres-sobreviven-tambien-a-la-violencia-y-la-exclusion-en-medio-de-la-emergencia-climatica/>

18/10/22

Honduras Daily; COPINH; ZEDEs; Xiomara; Femicide; Police; Corruption - CICIH, IHSS; Penal Code; Judicial Power; Poverty; Public Security; Public Health; FAO; Labor Rights;

Criterio reports on the suspension of the trial in the case of the attempted murder against COPINH leader Allan García (see previous days).

<https://criterio.hn/reprograman-juicio-de-militar-acusado-de-tentativa-de-homicidio-contraliderlenca/>

Even though the ZEDEs law has been repealed in Honduras, its promoters continue their work abroad presenting the ZEDEs as a great investment.

<https://criterio.hn/pese-a-derogacion-inversionistas-de-prospera-y-ciudad-morazan-continuan-promoviendo-internacionalmente-modelo-de-las-zede/>

Even before the talks between Luis Redondo and Salvador Nasralla took place (see yesterday), Redondo declares that the Libre-PSH alliance has not ruptured, the situation just shows different positions.

Redondo's party PSH seems to disagree as they just published a press release on the rupture of the alliance. They hold Libre responsible for the this.

Former PSH member Virgilio Padilla holds Nasralla responsible, accusing him of creating instability and not recognizing that the Xiomara government gave the second most powerful position, president of Congress, to Nasralla's party.

Nasralla, meanwhile, asked Redondo to hold their meeting in public.

El Heraldillo additionally reports that Nasralla could not be separated from his presidential designate position as the Constitution does not foresee that.

<https://proceso.hn/no-hay-ruptura-entre-libre-y-psh-son-posiciones-diferentes-segun-presidente-del-cn/>

<https://tiempo.hn/psh-se-pronuncia-sobre-ruptura-de-alianza/>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/18/exaliado-del-pac-y-psh-acusa-a-nasralla-de-causar-la-inestabilidad-del-gobierno/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/nasralla-pide-a-luis-redondo-que-la-reunion-que-ha-solicitado-el-titular-del-cn-sea-publica-y-no-privada/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/honduras-salvador-nasralla-xiomara-castro-separado-designado-presidencial-IA10549436>

"The Center for Women's Rights (CDM) says that 211 women were violently murdered in Honduras since Sept. 30 of this year. Although the number of femicides has gone down, the level of violence against women & girls is still alarming."

"Several feminist groups reproached on Tuesday the motto of the National Police "Serve and Protect", and the deficiency of the institution, in the face of the escalation of violence and death against women in the country."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1582398809593610240>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/grupos-feministas-reprochan-la-deficiencia-de-la-policia-ante-el-incremento-de-los-asesinatos-de-mujeres-en-el-pais/>

Criterio has an additional article on the ongoing problems with police violence and their collusion with crime. "Joaquín Mejía, a doctor in human rights, told Criterio.hn that when discussing the National Police, three issues must be highlighted. First, the whole process of building a civilian National Police began in the wrong way, because when the Organic Law of the National Police of 1998 was approved, it only proceeded to remove the Police from the structures of the Armed Forces (FFAA), changing their uniforms. However, there was no change in the police culture, which still continues to be, first of all, militarized. Secondly, there have been positive changes such as a new police curriculum, in the sense of raising the requirements for those who want to enter this

institution to change the curriculum through the police technical institute, which has a focus on community policing and respect for human rights. But the problem is that this is only the public curriculum, but evidently there is a hidden, secret curriculum, we could see it with the death of these aspiring police officers when they were subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, practices that are not in any curriculum for police training, being part of the hidden impositions, in which they are taught to be practically soldiers in war and that the culture of militarization is maintained. In conjunction with the perspective detailed above, it must be taken into account that it is useless to change police education when these police officers, trained in a certain way, face a hierarchical, militarized, corrupt, uneducated institutionality, linked to organized crime."

<https://criterio.hn/policia-de-honduras-continua-conducta-de-represion-y-colusion-con-el-crimen/>

"The Secretary of Transparency, Edmundo Orellana, informed that a fourth and definitive memorandum of understanding for the installation of the International Commission against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (CICIH) is missing (...) He pointed out that there is a disqualification campaign by the opposition aimed at misinforming about the anti-corruption mission. "The danger is that it becomes a conspiracy, but I do not know if it is happening", he said. Likewise, he reiterated that the only problem that could exist would be the non-repeal of the decree that protects the deputies who embezzled the Departmental Social Fund, which the National Party bench has refused to do."

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/18/titular-de-transparencia-detalla-que-falta-un-memorando-de-entendimiento-para-la-llegada-de-la-cicih/>

"In an ad-hoc hearing held this Tuesday in the anti-corruption court, the [Nationalist] ex-deputy Reynaldo Geovanny Ekonomo Fúnes was notified that from now on the criminal process against him will be followed for the alleged commission of the crimes of fraud and money laundering, in a case that the National Fiscal Support Unit (UNAF) called "14 contracts" and which involved an embezzlement in the Honduran Institute of Social Security (IHSS) of more than 158 million Lempiras."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/para-el-3-de-noviembre-senalan-audiencia-preliminar-contr-exdiputado-acusado-de-fraude-y-lavado-de-activos-en-el-ihss/>

Libre congresswoman Silvia Ayala announced that the corresponding congressional committee recommends repealing the JOH-era Penal Code.

<https://proceso.hn/comision-legislativa-recomendara-derogar-el-vigente-codigo-penal-dice-diputada-oficialista/>

Luis Redondo called on Olban Valladares, representative of the business sector at the Nomination Board for the Supreme Court election, to leave the body after recent statements by Valladares. He questioned the legitimacy of Redondo and Congress.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/10/18/redondo-sugiere-a-defensor-del-golpe-no-desacreditar-eleccion-de-corte/>

"The new salary adjustment is aimed at benefiting those who earn less than 30,000 lempiras, said José Dolores Valenzuela, representative of the Federation of National Workers' Unions of Honduras (Fesitrnh)."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/senalan-que-el-ajuste-salarial-va-encaminado-para-beneficiar-a-quienes-devengan-un-sueldo-menor-a-30-mil-lempiras/>

"The executive director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Ghada Fathi Waly, expressed her support for Honduras' actions and operational plans related to security issues."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/directora-ejecutiva-de-onudc-respalda-a-honduras-en-temas-de-seguridad/>

"Six of the 32 national hospitals are in deplorable conditions, denounced this Tuesday the National Anti-Corruption Council (CNA). The civil society organization presented a report called "Parálisis Sanitaria" (Health Paralysis), which shows the results of the CNA's visits to the 32 hospitals in Honduras to verify the conditions in which they are found."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/seis-hospitales-estan-en-condiciones-deplorables-segun-informe-paralisis-sanitaria-del-cna/>

<https://www.cna.hn/paralisis-sanitaria-analisis-integral-de-los-32-hospitales-a-nivel-nacional/>

FAO director general Qu Dongyu announced support for the Honduran agricultural sector. President Xiomara met with him in Rome.

"The president of the Cortés Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIC), Eduardo Facussé, applauded the initiative presented by President Xiomara Castro at the World Food Forum of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) where he emphasized that food sovereignty is an imperative." (see yesterday)

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/director-de-fao-anuncia-apoyo-a-honduras-para-revitalizar-plan-tecnico-en-agricultura-y-ganaderia/>

<https://tiempo.hn/fao-apoyara-a-honduras-en-cambio-climatico/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/18/el-presidente-ccic-eduardo-facusse-aplaudio-la-iniciativa-presentada-por-la-presidenta-xiomara-castro-en-la-fao/>

Labor unions announced protests against the mass firing of employees in the maquila sector, more than 15'000 people lost their jobs in the last two months.

<https://radioprogresohn.net/aplicacion-movil/sindicatos-anuncian-manifestaciones-contra-masivos-despidos-y-cierres-de-maquilas/>

19/10/22

Honduras Daily: LGBTIQ+; ZEDEs; Corruption - CICIH; Xiomara; Judicial Powers; Hydroelectricity; Saudi Arabia; Italy; Migration - TPS; and Public Transport and its Challenges

Trans woman Melissa Núñez was murdered in Morocelí, El Paraíso. "According to eyewitnesses, Melissa was near her home when hooded men in a vehicle got out and shot her to death."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/19/asesinan-a-mujer-trans-en-moroceli-el-paraiso/>

Criterio unearthed that JOH-ally on the run, Ebal Díaz, continues to be part of the oversight bodies of the ZEDEs, CAMP, and financially profits from it.

<https://criterio.hn/desde-nicaragua-ebal-diaz-sigue-regulando-las-zede-y-lucrandose-del-territorio-hondureno/>

A congressional group in support of the CICIH was formed yesterday.

<https://criterio.hn/organizan-frente-parlamentario-de-apoyo-a-la-cicih/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/19/conforman-frente-parlamentario-de-apoyo-a-la-cicih/>

"The alliance between Libre and PSH is said to have come to an end. One of the main questions is what will happen with the positions granted to members of that party in the Executive and Legislative branches of government."

<https://criterio.hn/que-sucedera-con-cuotas-de-poder-otorgadas-al-psh-en-el-ejecutivo-y-el-legislativo/>

CESPAD highlights the importance of the Transparency Portal for the Supreme Court electoral process.

<https://cespad.org.hn/la-importancia-del-portal-de-transparencia-en-el-proceso-de-seleccion-de-magistrados-as-de-la-csj/>

Congress approved a 18 million Lempiras loan to renovate the El Cajón hydroelectric dam.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/19/congreso-nacional-aprueba-en-primer-debate-prestamo-de-18-millones-de-dolares-para-renovacion-de-la-represa-el-cajon/>

"Engineers from the Saudi Arabian Development Fund are continuing their tour of Honduras to advance the project to build a four-lane highway from the La Democracia bridge in El Progreso to the Triunfo de la Cruz turnoff in Tela with a budget of US\$150 million."

<https://hondudiario.com/economia/honduras-firmara-convenio-de-150-millones-con-arabes-para-construir-carretera-el-progreso-tela/>

"The President of Honduras, Xiomara Castro, met this Wednesday with her Italian counterpart, Sergio Mattarella, to discuss investment and cooperation issues between the two countries. (...) After the meeting between President Xiomara Castro and her counterpart Sergio Mattarella, it was reported that Italy will support the Honduran tourism sector and cooperation programs, which were stopped due to the weakening of the rule of law, will return."

<https://hondudiario.com/nacionales/honduras-e-italia-retomaran-programas-de-cooperacion-tras-reunion-de-castro-y-mattarella/>

Honduras registered over 120'000 migrants trying to pass Honduras to reach the US.

"The same have repeatedly denounced being victims of multiple abuses by elements of the National Police assigned to border points where migrants are obliged to pass through, however, to date only one of the abusers has been suspended. (...) The National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH), urgently requested the Directorate of Police Disciplinary Affairs (Didadpol) and the Public Prosecutor's Office to investigate and proceed against members of the Honduran police who, abusing their authority, make illegal charges to migrants transiting through Honduran territory."

<https://proceso.hn/mas-de-124800-migrantes-han-entrado-de-forma-irregular-a-honduras-en-2022/>

<https://criterio.hn/urgen-a-la-didadpol-proceder-contr-policias-que-realizan-cobros-ilegales-a-migrantes-en-transito/>

"By unanimous vote, the National Congress approved an exhortative motion for this branch of government to request the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to promote a dialogue with the government of the United States and achieve the re-designation of the Temporary Protected Status, TPS, for the 58,000 Honduran migrants."

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/congreso-nacional-aprueba-comision-multipartidaria-para-abogar-por-el-tps/>

<https://criterio.hn/un-viaje-por-el-deplorable-costoso-y-peligroso-transporte-publico-de-honduras/>

20/10/22

Honduras Daily: LGBTIQ+; HRDs - ZEDEs, Congress; Poverty; Forced Displacement; Judicial Power; Budget; Armed Forces; Trains; Vatican; and a New Census

OACNUDH denounced the murder of trans woman Melisa Nuñez (see yesterday), the sixth trans woman murdered this year out of 33 murdered LGBTIQ+ activists.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDHNN/status/1583095282178265089>

<https://criterio.hn/oacnud-pide-a-autoridades-hondurenas-pronta-investigacion-con-enfoque-de-genero-en-muerte-de-mujer-trans/>

"Harassment and death threats being made against Christopher Castillo of ARCAH environmental org related to continuing fight against the ZEDE private cities."

<https://twitter.com/hondurassol/status/1583232900929318913>

Congress recognized the work of several human rights activists, Padre Melo, Carlos H. Reyes and Juan Almendarez.

In his acceptance speech, Padre Melo spoke out against nepotism and the thin skin of some public officials when it comes to public criticism.

<https://twitter.com/VictorFerG/status/1583159497014460416>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/20/congreso-nacional-otorga-reconocimientos-a-hondurenos-y-extranjero-que-colocan-el-nombre-de-honduras-en-alto/>

<https://proceso.hn/padre-ismael-moreno-critica-el-nepotismo-y-campanas-politicas-prematuras/>

"The Government of Xiomara Castro, requested a loan for 200 million dollars from the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), to subsidize fuels in the country. This project was sent from the Executive and did not have an echo in the Legislative, since an attempt was made to dispense it in two debates, but the opposition deputies rejected it. The deputy for the Liberal Party, Marlon Lara, indicated through his official twitter account that they voted against said initiative because they consider that "a debt for such a high amount must be sufficiently discussed and above all invested for the benefit of the people".

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/20/no-paso-millonario-prestamo-para-subsidiar-combustibles/>

The UNHCR invited to a forum on forced internal displacement in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/21/atender-desplazamiento-en-honduras-requiere-respuestas-integrales-y-duraderas-acnur/>

According to Proceso Digital, the Nomination Board has not yet received any self-nominations for Supreme Court justice candidates. "However, the representative of the Honduran Bar Association (CAH) affirmed that there is a lot of expectation, enthusiasm and many requests for certificates to participate in the process."

<https://proceso.hn/junta-nominadora-sigue-sin-recibir-autopostulaciones-de-candidatos-a-magistrados-de-la-csj/>

Finance minister Rixi Moncada comments on the challenges to execute the current budget. "She justified that in 10 months the investment has not been executed as expected due to several factors, among which she mentioned: the reorganization of the State, "it is necessary to dismantle the platform of corruption that was installed for 13 consecutive years and that used different types of figures such as trusts".

The 2023 budget will be socialized starting next week.

<https://proceso.hn/desmontaje-de-plataforma-de-corrupcion-no-ha-permitido-ejecucion-de-inversion-publica-justifica-ministra-moncada/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/20/congreso-nacional-iniciara-la-proxima-semana-socializacion-del-presupuesto-general-2023/>

The Air Force plans to buy six new helicopters.

<https://proceso.hn/defensa-anuncia-compra-de-seis-nuevos-helicopteros/>

"A group of Italian investors are interested in building a railroad in Honduras. This was announced by the Secretary of Economic Development, Pedro Barquero."

This brings back to memory the disputed plans for an interoceanic railroad.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/19/inversionistas-italianos-analizan-construir-un-ferrocarril-en-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/ferrocarril-interoceanico-en-honduras/>

President Xiomara met with Pope Francis.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/papa-francisco-recibe-a-la-presidenta-de-honduras-xiomara-castro/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/20/papa-francisco-recibe-a-la-presidenta-xiomara-castro-y-abordan-temas-como-la-reconciliacion-migracion-y-pobreza/>

"Honduras is working on the elaboration of a new population and housing census, which will also measure the country's poverty indexes, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United States."

<https://proceso.hn/honduras-contara-con-nuevo-censo-poblacional-con-apoyo-de-la-onu-y-eeuu/>

21/10/22

Honduras Daily: Labor Rights - US; LGBTIQ+; Journalists; HRDs; Garífunas; Corruption - CICIH, JOH; Transparency; EU; Judicial Power; National Police; and No Comment

There is a webinar on the labor struggle at the construction site of the new US embassy tomorrow.

And on the topic of labor rights, C-Libre reports on the planed firing of 1700 maquila workers in November.

https://act.dsausa.org/signup/labor_against_empire/

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1550-hanesbrands-dejara-en-la-calle-a-1700-operarios-de-maquila-y-destruira-la-organizacion-sindical>

The police presents worrisome possible motives for the murder of trans activist Melissa Núñez (see previous days): a crime of passion or drug trafficking...

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/hipotesis-investiga-dpi-asesinado-mujer-trans-moroceli-el-paraiso-AN10590819>

According to the police, they found videos of the murder of journalist Edwin Andino and his father (see last week) on the cell phones of recently arrested gang members.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/dpi-video-asesinato-periodista-edwin-andino-padre-celulares-pandilleros-HN10590205>

"In their struggle to defend their ancestral territories, Honduras' Indigenous and Afro-Indigenous peoples have faced a near-constant cycle of assaults by the previous Honduran government, the elements of the narco-dictatorship that still exist in the Public Ministry and the Supreme Court of the Honduran government, powerful elites, and organized crime. Ongoing targets of these assaults

are Grassroots International partners Organización Fraternal Negra Hondureña/Black Fraternal Organization of Honduras (OFRANEH) and Consejo Cívico de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras/Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH). In response to escalated aggression against leaders of OFRANEH and COPINH in recent months, 85 organizations from different parts of the world have signed the following open letter to Honduran authorities."

<https://grassrootsonline.org/blog/global-solidarity-with-honduran-communities-and-movements-under-attack/>

"The Garífunas residing in the community of Punta Gorda in the insular municipality of Roatán, Bay Islands, in the Honduran Caribbean, demand the titling of their entire community territory and not just a fraction of it, as has occurred to date, said the Honduran Black Fraternal Organization (Ofraneh)."

<https://criterio.hn/garifunas-de-punta-gorda-exigen-titulacion-comunitaria-de-su-territorio/>

Transparency Minister Edmundo Orellana hopes that the memorandum of understanding with the UN will still be signed this year.

According to Foreign Minister Enrique Reina, the question of the legality of Congress' leadership (an argument often brought forward by the National Party) does not play a role regarding the installation of the CICIH.

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/21/titular-de-transparencia-espera-que-antes-de-finalizar-2022-se-firmara-el-memorandum-de-cicih/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/21/legalidad-de-junta-directiva-del-congreso-nacional-no-es-una-condicion-para-llegada-de-la-cicih-canciller-enrique-reina/>

The former JOH health minister Yolani Batres was sent to pre-trial detention accused of corruption.

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/unaf-obtiene-auto-de-formal-procesamiento-y-prision-preventiva-contra-exministra-de-salud/>

<https://proceso.hn/prision-preventiva-para-exministra-yolani-batres/>

"On September 29, the Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP) certified that Casa Presidencial had 100% compliance in the disclosure of information on transparency portals. However, several of the sections in those portals are still ambiguous including the description of monthly expenses incurred in that agency and the description of people hired and permanent staff agreements. One of the positions that remains anonymous is the highest paid position in Casa Presidencial: the "social affairs liaison of the presidency of the Republic"."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/10/21/enlace-en-asuntos-sociales-de-la-presidencia-el-puesto-mejor-pagado-de-casa-presidencial/>

The EU announced emergency aid for 300 families affected by the recent rains.
Spain will support an additional 1200 families.

<https://proceso.hn/union-europea-apoya-a-300-familias-afectadas-por-lluvias-en-honduras/>

<https://proceso.hn/cooperacion-espanola-entrega-a-honduras-ayuda-humanitaria-tras-huracan-julia/>

The Nomination Board has received the first application yesterday.

In a press release, the IACHR called for a transparent and participatory selection process.

Criterio, meanwhile, writes about the possibility of a renewed distribution of judge positions among Libre, the National and Liberal Party.

<https://proceso.hn/junta-nominadora-recibe-primera-postulacion-a-magistrado-de-la-csj/>

<https://www.oas.org/es/CIDH/jsForm/?File=/es/cidh/prensa/comunicados/2022/236.asp>

<https://criterio.hn/prematuros-cabildeos-con-miras-a-eleccion-de-la-nueva-csj-generan-suspicion-de-efecto-bombas/>

According to a new ASJ study, 7 out of ten Hondurans mistrusted the police in 2020.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/21/desconfianza-de-ciudadania-en-la-policia-nacional-perpetua-la-inseguridad-revela-un-estudio-de-la-asj/>

https://twitter.com/All_Things_HND/status/1583586338162368512

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/21/comitiva-de-diputados-nacionalistas-presentaron-denuncia-por-persecucion-ante-la-cidh/>

22/10/22

Honduras Daily: ZEDEs; Judicial Power; Illiteracy; National Party;

CESPAD offers an important overview of the state of affairs regarding the ZEDEs. "The repeal of the law that kept the Employment and Economic Development Zones (ZEDE) project in force culminated a full cycle of information, advocacy and citizen mobilization. However, more than 5 months after its elimination, the demands of the companies that continue to position the issue and, currently, the voices of U.S. congressmen and officials, seek to legitimize a narrative and actions that go against the will of the people."

One important open question regarding the ZEDEs remains, will Honduras be brought to court for the repeal of the law. According to deputy foreign minister Gerardo Torres, this has so far not been the case but the threats are there.

<https://cespad.org.hn/ley-zede-derogada-narrativas-y-contranarrativas/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/22/vicecanciller-afirma-que-no-hay-demandas-contra-el-estado-de-honduras-por-las-zedes-pero-si-una-amenaza/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/zede-prospera-podria-interponer-demanda-contra-honduras-GH10600622>

CESPAD explains what the rupture of the Libre-PSH alliance could mean for the selection of the Supreme Court elections. "Facing the election of the CSJ, with the current fragmentation of forces and political polarization, the only way out is the dialogue and negotiation among all political parties present in the legislature, which allows to agree on quotas of representation in the highest court of justice, ensuring the inter-party construction of a qualified majority, avoiding the outbreak of a new institutional crisis. However, the big question that this raises is how in these circumstances it could be guaranteed that the election of a CSJ represents a change and/or substantive progress with respect to the current failed judiciary.

In this context, three points would be crucial to advance towards that necessary change:

The first, that the Nominating Board complies faithfully with the Special Law and that it selects in a transparent manner and based on merit, suitability and honesty, the list of candidates and candidates for magistrates.

Second, that the National Congress respect the results of the Nominating Board and that, based on the proposed candidates, the members of the highest court of justice be elected.

And, the third, that in the plenary of the legislature, the candidates who have reached the highest scores in the evaluation of the Nominating Board are elected.

Finally, beyond the election of the CSJ, if LIBRE (as a government) aspires to carry out and/or advance in the ambitious reforms proposed in the Bicentennial Program, it must necessarily advance towards the construction in the legislature of a simple inter-party majority with an agreed agenda, that is to say, dialogued, discussed and agreed upon by different political forces. This must be complemented with the effective opening of the civic-democratic space to ensure dialogue and the construction of agreements with the social movement and civil society. In this way, it will be possible to lay the firm foundations for the reconstruction and transformation of the limited and excluding Honduran democracy."

<https://cespad.org.hn/analisis-semanal-honduras-ante-la-eleccion-de-la-nueva-csj-y-la-reconfiguracion-de-fuerzas-en-el-congreso-nacional/>

"The challenge of reducing the illiteracy rate to less than five decimal places in order to acquire the category of a country free of this burden is an old problem in Honduras, but with the arrival of the pandemic due to COVID-19, new actors are added. This was stated to Proceso Digital by Martha Leiva, statistics manager of the National Institute of Statistics (INE) who shared that the Permanent Multipurpose Household Survey of October 2021 reveals that the illiteracy rate at the national level is 12%".

<https://proceso.hn/analfabetismo-un-problema-viejo-con-nuevos-actores-en-honduras/>

The attempt by the National Party to present themselves as victim of political persecution is met with ridicule and criticism (see yesterday).

<https://proceso.hn/mel-llama-ridiculos-a-diputados-nacionalistas-que-fueron-a-eeuu-y-advierte-libre-defendera-en-las-calles-las-consultas/>

<https://proceso.hn/luis-zelaya-critica-a-los-que-van-a-eeuu-a-denunciar-persecucion-y-pide-cicih-sin-negociaciones-oscuras/>

<https://tiempo.hn/nacionalistas-reunion-con-luis-almagro-embajador-desmiente/>

23/10/22

Honduras Daily: Congress; Lencas; Police; Rains;

Last week, the National Party grabbed the attention with a PR stunt, presenting themselves as victims of political persecution in Honduras (see last week and first link below) - probably because for the first time in the last twelve years, there are at least some attempts to try them for corruption. Either way, the real persecution continues to come from people close to the system established by JOH. Yesterday, JOH ally and president of the Supreme Court, Rolando Argueta told media outlets that the Supreme Court had admitted two challenges of the legality of the congressional leadership. This is a clear attempt to undermine the current administration and, in a nefarious way, maybe even try to undermine the installation of a CICIH, which could really help bring the corruption cases to court.

"The president of the Legislation and Constitutional Affairs Committee in the National Congress, Representative Ramón Barrios, stated this Sunday that the Supreme Court of Justice should not decide on political matters."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/diputados-nacionalistas-desesperados-ahora-quieren-manipular-el-tema-de-ddhh/>

<https://proceso.hn/presidente-de-csj-admite-que-hay-dos-recursos-de-inconstitucionalidad-admitidos-sobre-ilegalidad-de-directiva-del-cn/>

<https://proceso.hn/presidente-de-comision-de-asuntos-constitucionales-en-cn-advierte-que-csj-no-debe-decidir-sobre-temas-politicos/>

"The Lenca Indigenous Council of the community of Upa, Cerro Grande, Santa María, department of La Paz, denounced that four members of the National Police and two members of the National Army, assigned to the municipality of San Pedro de Tutule, accompanied by Roberto Díaz, police judge of that municipality, broke down the security gate installed in the center of the community."

<http://www.clibrehonduras.com/cl/index.php/portada-alertas/1551-consejo-indigena-lenca-denuncia-atropello-por-parte-de-las-autoridades-de-tutule-la-paz>

"The Special Prosecutor's Office for Crimes against Life (FEDCV), together with the Technical Agency for Criminal Investigation (ATIC), obtained a formal indictment against four police officers allegedly involved in the violent death of Real España fan, Wilson Ariel Pérez Hernández, which occurred on May 31."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/auto-de-formal-procesamiento-para-cuatro-policias-vinculados-a-muerte-de-aficionado-del-real-espana/>

<https://criterio.hn/dictan-auto-de-prision-contra-policias-implicados-en-muerte-de-barrista-wilson-perez/>

Radio Progreso reports how the recent rains worsen the situation of the already impoverished populations in the Sula Valley.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/portada/inundaciones-empeoran-condiciones-poblacion-mas-pobre-del-valle-de-sula/>

24/10/22

Honduras Daily: Xiomara; IACtHR; Drug Trafficking - JOH; SSF; Corruption - CICIC, TSC; Agriculture; ENEE; Poverty;

More worrisome signals coming from Honduras. Nationalist congresswoman Leda Pagan encouraged Hondurans to prepare their white shirts, bringing back memories of 2009 when supporters of the coup d'état wore white shirts.

"This invitation has been strongly questioned by government authorities. In this case, the Secretary of Human Rights, Natalie Roque, reproached the congresswoman for having made such an open call to wear white shirts, which in her opinion represent the beginning of the coup d'état that filled Honduras with blood and pain."

<https://twitter.com/baraudawaguchu/status/1584699046626983936>

<https://tiempo.hn/diputada-leda-pagan-pide-alistar-camisas-blancas/>

<https://tiempo.hn/camiseta-blanca-toneladas-cocaina-asi-reaccionan/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/24/las-camisetas-blancas-representan-el-inicio-de-un-golpe-de-estado-sangre-y-dolor-natalie-roque/>

<https://proceso.hn/detras-de-las-camisetas-blancas-hay-violacion-de-derechos-y-el-escuadron-3-16-dice-ministra-roque/>

"The government, in a hearing held on May 9 in San José, Costa Rica, acknowledged before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR), the international responsibility of the State of Honduras for the extrajudicial execution of Herminio Deras, as announced this Monday by the head of the Attorney General's Office (PGR), Manuel Díaz. (...) In addition, at the event held as part of the commemoration of Human Rights Day, the head of the SEDH, Natalie Roque, in response to the clamor of relatives and victims of human rights violations, presented the program "Memories,

Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition for the Reconciliation and Refoundation of Honduras", which aims to promote, guarantee and promote the right to truth for people who have been subjected to violations of their rights, through historical memory, support and monitoring of reparation processes; and facilitating access to justice, whether transitional, restorative or traditional."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/25/gobierno-reconoce-responsabilidad-del-estado-por-la-ejecucion-extrajudicial-de-herminio-deras/>

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/solicitan-a-la-alcaldia-del-distrito-central-que-plaza-la-merced-se-llame-plaza-de-los-desaparecidos/>

<https://proceso.hn/gobierno-reconoce-responsabilidad-del-estado-por-la-ejecucion-extrajudicial-de-herminio-deras/>

JOH's next hearing has been suspended for a second time.

JOH, meanwhile, sent an open letter to the Honduran people.

<https://proceso.hn/suspenden-audiencia-para-el-expresidente-hernandez-programada-para-esta-semana/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/24/exmandatario-juan-orlando-hernandez-exhibe-problemas-de-pais-en-una-carta-abierta-al-pueblo-hondureno/>

In total seven aspiring or current members of the police and armed forces have died in less than two months during trainings. "A veil of mystery and uncertainty hangs over the Honduran Armed Forces and National Police after seven of their members lost their lives in strange circumstances in less than two months. 1They were of different ages and ranks, but had one characteristic in common: they died after performing physical training activities inside police and military premises."

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/sucesos/cronologia-siete-muertos-recintos-policiales-militares-menos-dos-meses-honduras-anapo-aspirantes-ffaa-cobras-entrenamientos-BE10634115>

With Supreme Court president Rolando Argueta reigniting the discussions about the legality of the congressional leadership (see yesterday), Foreign Minister Enrique Reina reiterates that this question has not played a role in discussions with the UN regarding the installation of a CICIH.

<https://proceso.hn/naciones-unidas-no-nos-ha-mencionado-nada-de-la-junta-directiva-del-cn-canciller-reina/>

"The Public Prosecutor's Office and the Superior Court of Accounts (TSC) signed an agreement on Monday to improve the system for combating corruption, transparency and legality in the public service."

<https://proceso.hn/mp-y-tsc-firman-convenio-para-mejorar-combate-a-la-corrupcion/>

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/ministerio-publico-y-tribunal-superior-de-cuentas-firman-convenio-para-un-mejor-combate-a-la-corrupcion/>

"Through an agreement signed between the Property Institute (IP) and the National Agrarian Institute (INA), the Government of President Xiomara Castro, will benefit hundreds of peasants with the delivery of land titles. The purpose of this agreement is the regularization and vindication of the agrarian struggle of the peasants to deliver as many titles as possible, as well as the delivery of access to loans for the dynamics of the agrarian sector."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/24/el-gobierno-entregara-titulos-de-propiedad-que-beneficiara-a-campesinos-con-apoyo-del-ina-y-el-ip/>

"The president of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE), Dante Mossi, indicated that US\$170 million are available for the financial recovery and reduction of losses in the Empresa Nacional de Energía Eléctrica (ENEE)."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/24/bcie-dispone-de-170-millones-de-dolares-para-la-recuperacion-financiera-y-reduccion-de-perdidas-en-la-enee/>

Criterio reports on poverty and how it affects children in Honduras. To resolve the issue, "a special, integral, multisectoral approach" is needed.

<https://criterio.hn/mendicidad-no-se-termina-con-limosna-se-necesita-estrategia-nacional-armonizada-de-proteccion-educacion-y-empleo/>

25/10/22

Honduras Daily: Bajo Aguán; Xiomara - US, Judicial Power, Congress; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Corruption - Congress, IHSS; SSF; Femicide - IHSS; and Labor Struggles at the US Embassy

MADJ and others invite to a forum tomorrow in Tegucigalpa on "The Plan to Assassinate the Campesino Leadership in the Aguán Valley".

<https://twitter.com/bufetedignidad/status/1585064308374876161>

US ambassador Laura F. Dogu made headlines yesterday with, either badly- or rather well-chosen words. She criticized the Honduran government for creating a bad investment climate. By themselves, the comments could be just that, but given that this was a follow-up to a letter by two US Senators in support of the ZEDEs and in a week where the Xiomara administration has been under attack, even with threats of a coup lingering (see yesterday), people are alert.

Political leader Gilberto Rios does not mince words: "Here, let's not fool ourselves, we know who is behind the whole strategy [to question govt & Congress], it's Laura Dogu, the US Ambassador, who is the John Dimitri Negroponte 2.0 from the 80s, in order to try and maintain US hegemony in Central America."

Foreign Minister Enrique Reina reacted from Argentina, which he currently visits. "We are surprised because we believe that there are words expressed by the ambassador that concern us since we have had more than 30 meetings with the US authorities at all levels, we believe that the situation is complex because we have expressed the situation that the country is going through and President Castro is trying to make us competitive. It seems to us that the ambassador's statements complicate our relationship because they do not see clearly the situation of the country and we see that beyond defending their interests and their companies they must understand when we take measures that are to clean up and put right the rule of law".

Reina also announced to meet with the ambassador on Monday.

"The Secretary of the Presidency, Rodolfo Pastor, expressed that as government officials they have the responsibility to keep the compass and not be distracted by all those who want to destabilize the country. He reiterated "we cannot allow ourselves to be distracted by all those who want to destabilize the project", for which he asked the government team to have clarity on what the people entrusted them with."

<https://proceso.hn/desafortunadas-politicas-en-energia-e-inversion-complican-exito-del-pais-dogu/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/26/todas-estas-acciones-estan-enviando-un-mensaje-claro-a-empresas-de-que-deberian-invertir-en-otros-lugares-no-en-honduras-laura-dogu/>

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1584986218973929473>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1584916543514845187>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/canciller-reina-pide-respeto-embajadora-dogu-advierte-relacion-eeuu-crisis-LB10669626>

<https://proceso.hn/expresiones-de-la-embajadora-complican-nuestras-relaciones-responde-canciller-reina-y-anuncia-la-convocara-a-consultas-el-lunes/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/25/rodolfo-pastor-la-nueva-administracion-debe-mantener-la-brujula-y-no-dejarse-distraer-por-los-que-quieren-desestabilizar-el-pais/>

One reason why this above takes place right now is the Supreme Court election, still a bastion of JOH. "The selection of candidates for the next Supreme Court of Justice, CSJ, is a historic opportunity to recover the questioned justice system controlled by the corrupt political class and power groups, said lawyer Mario Urquía, President of the Nominating Board, on Radio Progreso."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/eleccion-de-nueva-csj-es-una-oportunidad-para-rescatar-la-justicia-controlada-por-grupos-de-poder/>

And regarding the setup of Congress, Criterio explains that the constitution guarantees Luis Redondo's presidency of Congress. This could only be changed by the Constitutional Chamber.

<https://criterio.hn/constitucion-garantiza-presidencia-de-luis-redondo-en-el-congreso-durante-cuatro-anos-%ef%bf%bc/>

JOH's next hearing has been postponed to November 15 (see yesterday).

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/juan-orlando-hernandez-audiencia-15-noviembre-DD10643527>

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2022/10/25/debido-a-protocolos-por-covid-19-audiencia-de-juan-orlando-se-realizara-el-15-de-noviembre/>

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2022/10/25/parte-de-las-posibles-evidencias-y-testimonios-que-se-podrian-presentar-contr-a-juan-orlando-hernandez/>

"Three years after Decree 116-2019 was published in La Gaceta, the debate for its repeal seems to be forgotten in some archive of the National Congress, in a context of arguments that do nothing to contribute to the fight against corruption. The Special Law for the Management, Allocation,

Execution, Liquidation and Accountability of Public Funds for Projects of Social Order, Community, Infrastructure and Social Programs, better known as the Departmental Social Fund Law, is composed of 22 articles. (...) But, arguing, in addition, that the needs of the population are not foreseen in the programs of the various State institutions, the deputies decided to broaden the scope of application of the decree, so that the aid programs and special social projects are also executed by public institutions of the central and/or decentralized government; municipal corporations, non-governmental organizations, trusts and any natural or legal person. However, for various sectors, the purpose of Decree 116-2019, is to shield or block criminal action to officials on the fraudulent management of public money."

<https://cespad.org.hn/corrupcion-clientelismo-politico-y-una-democracia-debil-el-legado-del-116-2019/>

"The National Unit of Fiscal Support (UNAF) obtained this Thursday the guilty plea against the former administrative and financial assistant manager of the IHSS, José Ramón Bertetty Osorio for continued passive bribery and money laundering and against the businesswoman and lawyer Jenny Carolina Andrade Lemus for money laundering, both prosecuted for the notorious case of the Honduran Institute of Social Security (IHSS)."

<https://www.mp.hn/publicaciones/culpables-empresaria-y-exadministrador-del-ihss-por-corrupcion-y-lavado-de-dinero/>

<https://criterio.hn/declaran-culpables-a-mas-involucrados-en-corrupcion-en-el-caso-del-ihss/>

"There are several cases in which police and military elements have disrupted crime scenes in which they have been involved, and these continue to go unpunished. Police reports rarely register an increase in crimes or similarities with previous years, but rather present achievements that highlight a job they do not perform or perform only half-heartedly. The police and paramilitary institutions have repeatedly tried to hide the events that have occurred in order not to "tarnish" their image, which according to them is intact and with the greatest prestige."

<https://criterio.hn/alterar-las-escenas-del-crimen-es-una-practica-sistemica-utilizada-por-los-entes-de-seguridad-del-estado/>

At least 14 women have been murdered in the last 8 days in Honduras.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/25/al-menos-14-mujeres-han-sido-asesinadas-en-los-ultimos-ocho-dias-en-honduras/>

"Yadira Álvarez, deputy director of the Honduran Social Security Institute, was wounded after being the victim of a criminal attack this evening in Tegucigalpa. Initial reports state that the doctor was entering her residence, in an area of the capital, when a woman got off a motorcycle and shot her several times. However, Alvarez was unharmed in the attack."

<https://www.laprensa.hn/sucesos/honduras-doctora-yadira-alvarez-atentan-contradoctora-subdirectora-ihss-MB10667649>

"Complaints, strikes, mobilizations, nothing seems to attract the attention of the State Department and its contractor B.L. Harbert, who after three months continue to ignore the demands of more than a thousand workers in the construction of the new U.S. embassy in the Honduran capital."

<https://criterio.hn/continuan-ignorando-reclamos-de-empleados-en-construccion-de-nueva-embajada-de-ee-uu-en-honduras/>

26/10/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; Extractivism; Corruption - CICIH; Xiomara - US; Education; and a Self-Imposed Curfew

Human rights defender Dina Meza denounces police surveillance.

<https://proceso.hn/defensora-dina-meza-denuncia-que-es-objeto-de-vigilancia-por-parte-de-la-policia/>

"In mid-August, and after pressure from the organized communities of Tocoa, Colón, the authorities of the Secretariat of the Environment, together with other state agencies, carried out an inspection in Carlos Escaleras National Park to verify the environmental damages caused by the mining company Inversiones Los Pinares. The authorities assured the communities that the results would be available in 8 days, but more than two months have passed and they are still waiting for the report with the findings."

<https://radioprogreso.hn/aplicacion-movil/comunidades-de-tocoa-colon-demandan-resultados-de-inspeccion-en-parque-carlos-escaleras/>

According to Foreign Minister Enrique Reina, they have received a response by the UN on their counter proposal regarding the installation of a CICIH. Based on this, he hopes that a memorandum of understanding can still be signed this year.

"The United States is willing to support a new international anti-corruption commission in Honduras and expects it to be independent, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the US State Department's Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs Emily Mendrala said Wednesday."

<https://criterio.hn/gobierno-tiene-en-sus-manos-respuesta-de-la-onu-a-su-ultima-contrapropuesta-con-miras-a-la-cicih/>

<https://proceso.hn/eeuu-dispuesto-a-apoyar-comision-anticorrupcion-independiente-en-honduras/>

The comments by US ambassador Laura F. Dogu continue to be met with criticism by government representatives (see also yesterday).

The Secretary of State in the Office of the Presidency, Rodolfo Pastor, met with Dogu yesterday and another meeting has been called for by Foreign Minister Enrique Reina for Monday.

<https://criterio.hn/a-que-le-esta-apuntando-la-embajadora-estadounidense-en-honduras/>

<https://www.laprensa.hn/honduras/diputado-hugo-noe-pino-responde-embajadora-dogu-puede-manifestar-inquietudes-privado-BA10676997>

<https://twitter.com/SEPresidencial/status/1585452025223020544>

<https://proceso.hn/reaccionamos-para-dejar-claro-que-honduras-es-un-pais-soberano-e-independiente-ministro-pastor/>

The 2023 education budget will be 4 billion Lempiras higher than this year.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/26/en-4-mil-millones-de-lempiras-aumentara-presupuesto-de-educacion-para-el-2023/>

"In view of the increase in crime, residents and authorities of the municipality of Piraera in the department of Lempira, decided to implement an indefinite curfew as of November 1 due to the increase in violence in this municipality."

<https://criterio.hn/poca-presencia-policial-incrementa-criminalidad-en-piraera-departamento-de-lempira/>

27/10/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs - Garífunas, Aguán Valley; Journalists; Xiomara - US; Judicial Power; Corruption - CICIH, Invest-H; Hydroelectricity; BCIE; Hondutel; Migration; and After the Storm
Indigenous Tolupán defender Reinaldo Barahona was awarded the Carlos Escaleras Award.

"OACNUDH welcomes the seventh edition of the Carlos Escaleras National Human Rights Award, a recognition that honors his career and legacy. OACNUDH recognizes the work of all human rights defenders and congratulates the defenders awarded with such honorable recognition."

<https://criterio.hn/septima-entrega-del-premio-carlos-escaleras-reconoce-labor-de-pueblos-indigenas-en-honduras/>

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1585439693667188736>

"The Honduran Black Fraternal Organization (Ofraneh) denounced the death threat against the prosecutor of the Triunfo de la Cruz Land Defense Committee, Alfredo López Álvarez, if he does not leave the community and cease the struggle for the restitution of the rights of the Garífuna people."

<https://criterio.hn/amenazan-a-muerte-a-lider-garifuna-sino-abandona-comunidad-del-triunfo-de-la-cruz/>

<https://pasosdeanimalgrande.com/pag/index.php/articulos/denuncia/121-te-damos-24-horas-para-que-te-vayas-de-aqui-dijeron-mensajeros-al-dirigente-garifuna-alfredo-lopez>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1585843298404831232>

"Agribusiness companies in Honduras are allegedly behind a plan to assassinate the peasant leadership of El Aguán, in the department of Yoro, and to redouble threats against those who fight for land tenure and denounce the ongoing human rights violations. This was denounced at a press conference by members and leaders of the Agrarian Platform of El Aguán, the Coordinator of Popular Organizations of El Aguán (COPA), the Broad Movement for Dignity and Justice (MADJ) and the Law Firm Studies for Dignity, in relation to the high levels of violence in the area of El Aguán against cooperatives struggling to secure land tenure."

<https://criterio.hn/denuncian-plan-para-asesinar-dirigencia-campesina-en-el-aguan/>

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1585857643016781824>

"The director and representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) Cluster Office in Central America, Alexander Leicht, said that practicing journalism in Honduras is "quite dangerous"."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/27/honduras-pais-bastante-peligroso-para-ejercer-el-periodismo-segun-unesco/>

Honduras Now has a helpful Twitter thread on the recent statement by US ambassador Laura F. Dogu and its aftermath (see previous days). "The Ambassador commented that investments destined for Honduras are complicated by policies like the new energy reform & the elimination of the temporary labor law [that violated the actual labor law]. Her speech came as statements from the Secretary of Congress, Carlos Zelaya refer to the Ambassador meeting with dozens of Congressional representatives to ask them not to support legislation related to security, defense, and energy."

<https://twitter.com/HondurasNow/status/1585617891617038340>

<https://elpulso.hn/2022/10/27/a-100-diputados-llamaron-para-que-se-opusieran-a-la-aprobacion-de-proyectos/>

CESPAD explains how the self-postulation process for the Supreme Court election plays a key role. "For the first time in Honduras, self-nomination is the only way to be elected as a candidate to the high magistracies of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ). This reform is considered one of the most significant because in previous processes, one of the strong questions was, precisely, that through the power that the law gave to the institutions and organizations that make up the Nominating Board, the pre-selection was manipulated."

Possible candidates have now until November 4 to present their application.

<https://cespad.org.hn/la-autopostulacion-una-fase-clave-para-la-independencia-de-la/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/27/junta-nominadora-extiende-plazo-hasta-el-4-de-noviembre-para-presentar-constancias-originales/>

"There are commitments from the government of Honduras and the United Nations (UN) to install an international commission against corruption and impunity in the country (CICIH). This was

stated this Thursday by the UN representative in Honduras, Alice Shackelford, who said that very soon there will be updates on the negotiations."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/27/existen-compromisos-entre-honduras-y-la-onu-para-que-se-instale-la-ccih-asegura-alice-shackelford/>

"The preliminary hearing of Marco Antonio Bográn Corrales and Alex Alberto Moraes Girón, against whom the Public Prosecutor's Office will formalize the accusation and request the opening of a trial, will be held this Thursday for their alleged responsibility in the millionaire irregular purchase of 474 thousand masks during the COVID-19 pandemic within Inversión Estratégica de Honduras (INVEST-H)."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/27/mp-formalizara-acusacion-y-pedira-auto-de-apertura-a-juicio-contra-marco-bogran-y-alex-moraes/>

"Through a community assembly, the inhabitants of Ceibita in Quimistán, Santa Bárbara, together with the municipal authorities, agreed to carry out a popular consultation or open town meeting to find out if the population is in favor or not of the construction of the El Tablón dam on the Chamelecón river."

Congress approved an \$18 million loan for the renovation of the Francisco Morazán Hydroelectric Power Plant.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/pobladores-de-quimistan-santa-barbara-organizan-consulta-popular-ante-construccion-de-represa-el-tablon/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/28/cn-aprueba-prestamo-de-18-millones-de-dolares-para-la-renovacion-de-la-central-hidroelectrica-francisco-morazan/>

Congress approved a \$200 million loan from the BCIE to subsidize fuel and energy.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/28/cn-aprueba-prestamo-de-200-millones-para-subsidio-a-combustibles-y-energia-electrica/>

Congress authorized Hondutel to negotiate a credit or loan up to 300 million Lempiras.

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aniversario-62-radio-progreso/congreso-nacional-autoriza-a-hondutel-adquirir-prestamo-hasta-300-millones-de-lempiras/>

"Through a report on the irregular migratory situation of the southern border of Honduras, UNICEF revealed with statistics, the inhumane conditions that migrants are suffering, the danger of the journey, the abuses suffered and the most urgent needs."

<https://criterio.hn/informe-de-unicef-sobre-situacion-migratoria-irregular-revela-necesidades-y-abusos-sufridos-por-los-migrantes/>

"In Honduras, thousands of families live in areas vulnerable to the effects of climate change and after the storm and flood emergencies have passed, they have no choice but to return to the same place from which they were expelled. Some 5800 families need to be relocated in the Sula Valley, according to official sources."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/10/27/desplazados-el-dilema-de-volver-tras-las-tormentas/>

28/10/22

Honduras Daily: HRDs; ZEDEs; Xiomara - US; Fiscal Policy; Public Health; and Water Prisoners

"Five police officers who had been accused of the crimes of abuse of authority and harassment, to the detriment of twelve citizens of the community of Coyolito, Amapala, Valle, were acquitted by the Sentencing Court of Nacaome. Judges Mario Ortiz, Ismael González Alcántara and Orlando Álvarez unanimously absolved the five agents of criminal responsibility, considering weakness in the identification evidence presented during the oral and public trial."

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/absuelven-a-policias-que-agredieron-a-defensores-de-la-tierra-durante-un-violento-desalojo/>

Sarah Lazare published a detailed article for American Prospect on the recent letter by two US Senators in support of the ZEDEs. "Earlier this month, Sens. Bill Hagerty (R-TN) and Ben Cardin (D-MD) called on U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken to act against the Honduran government for moving to get rid of ZEDEs. In doing so, the senators are citing the findings of an influential think tank, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), which has received direct support from a U.S.-based company that is invested in one of the ZEDEs. (...) CSIS calls itself "a bipartisan, nonprofit policy research organization dedicated to advancing practical ideas to address the world's greatest challenges." Yet there are signs that it may not be a neutral observer. According to its own statements, CSIS has received direct support from the U.S.-based NeWay Capital LLC, an investor in Honduras Próspera, Inc., the Delaware-based company operating a ZEDE on the Honduran island of Roatán. "NeWay Capital LLC is an affiliate of Honduras Próspera Inc. with a significant minority interest in the corporation," a spokesperson for Honduras Próspera, Inc., told

Workday Magazine and the Prospect. Erick A. Brimen, the CEO and chairman of the board for Honduras Próspera, Inc., according to the company's website, is also listed as CEO and chairman of the board on the website of NeWay Capital."

<https://prospect.org/world/us-pressuring-new-left-wing-honduras-government-economic-zones/>

Foreign Minister Enrique Reina commented on the recent developments in US-Honduran relations. "The Foreign Minister of Honduras, Eduardo Enrique Reina, said Friday that relations with the United States continue, but when it is necessary to be frank, he will do so (...) "Our ambassador in Washington continues to have meetings and we continue to have contact on other issues of interest, but when it is time to make the relationship clear, we will do so frankly," said Foreign Minister Reina."

<https://proceso.hn/relaciones-con-eeuu-continuan-pero-cuando-se-deba-ser-franco-lo-haremos-afirma-canciller-reina/>

<https://tiempo.hn/canciller-reina-mantener-relaciones-con-eeuu/>

"The former president of the Honduran College of Economists (CHE) Liliana Castillo, pointed out that Honduras is the only country that maintains exonerations for 7 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Castillo's statement is in relation to the recommendations of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to eliminate tax exonerations." The Xiomara administration has announced after a recent IMF visit to repeal these exonerations.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/28/bcie-ha-aprobado-2052-5-millones-de-dolares-a-centroamerica-en-ultima-decada/>

"In the framework of the celebration of the Honduran Doctor's Day, the Medical College of Honduras (CMH), presented today a plan for the reconstruction of the health system, which proposes that the State guarantees health protection under criteria of universality, equality and gratuity so that the population receives what it is entitled to as a human right."

<https://criterio.hn/presentan-plan-para-la-reconstruccion-del-sistema-sanitario-en-honduras/>

<https://criterio.hn/comic-y-cortometraje-prisioneros-por-el-agua-impactan-en-foro-centroamericano-de-donantes/>

29/10/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - Xiomara; Femicides; Judicial Power; Migration - TPS; and Musk in Honduras?

COPINH denounces a meeting between President Xiomara with Jacobo Nicolás Atala Zablah, one of the masterminds of Berta Caceres' murder, as appalling.

<https://twitter.com/COPINHHONDURAS/status/1586439367052009475>

"The message of impunity in cases of femicide is that killing a woman is not so serious, that women's lives are not so important, and that there is evident collusion of the justice system."

<https://criterio.hn/impunidad-ante-femicidios-es-mensaje-de-un-sistema-que-minimiza-quitarle-la-vida-a-las-mujeres/>

The Nomination Board has so far received 55 applications for Supreme Court positions.

"The executive director of the National Anticorruption Council (CNA) Gabriela Castellanos questioned that current magistrates are self-applying before the Nominating Board. Castellanos' assertions come after learning that the current magistrate of the Constitutional Chamber, José Abilio Serrano, presented his documentation before the Nominating Board to be considered in the next election of the judges of the highest court of justice of Honduras for the period 2023-2030."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/29/55-personas-se-han-postulado-ante-la-junta-nominadora-para-magistrados-de-la-csj/>

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/odir-fernandez-verguenza-postulan-podrida-justicia-EE10729782>

"At least 58,000 Honduran men and women beneficiaries of Temporary Protected Status, TPS, have been left in uncertainty in the United States after the failure of negotiations that for at least 16 months sought an agreement with the administration of President Joe Biden."

<https://radioprogreso.hn.net/aplicacion-movil/beneficiarios-del-tps-presionan-al-gobierno-de-honduras-para-no-quedar-desamparados/>

https://twitter.com/enriquereinahn/status/1586143335852277760?s=46&t=KynPqBBeJ4-DQF_XsKoNhA

30/10/22

Honduras Daily: Hydroelectricity; Xiomara - US; Migration - TPS; Judicial Power;

MADJ's Víctor Fernández informs about the state of operation of the disputed hydroelectric project Jilamito by INGELSA in Arizona, Atlántida. So far, INGELSA has been able to implement its contract with ENEE . The law stipulates that within six months of signing a contract, it could be terminated again if not implemented.

<https://criterio.hn/enee-niega-prorroga-a-ingelsa-para-operar-proyecto-hidroelectrico-en-arizona-atlantida/>

President Xiomara met with WOLA director Nancy Belden and the head of its Central America program Ana María Méndez.

<https://proceso.hn/presidenta-castro-se-reune-con-titular-del-wola-para-latinoamerica/>

Hondurans in the US announced a protest in front of the Honduran embassy to demand their support for a TPS extension.

<https://tiempo.hn/hondurenos-planton-en-washington-por-tps/>

The number of candidates for the Supreme Court election has risen to over 180 and among them are controversial figures such as the current president of the Supreme Court and JOH-ally Rolando Argueta.

<https://criterio.hn/rolando-argueta-y-otros-seis-magistrados-buscaran-reelegirse-en-la-corte/>

31/10/22

Honduras Daily: Women's Rights; Bajo Aguán; Xiomara - US, EU; Drug Trafficking - JOH; Judicial Power; Homicide; and Energy with Justice and Respect of Human Rights

Health Minister José Manuel Matheu announced that Honduras would finally be approving the emergency contraceptive pill, but only in case of rape.

The Center for Women's Rights denounces this as a way of revictimization. Furthermore, President Xiomara's proposed plan of government spoke of allowing the distribution, sale and purchase of the pill.

<https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/secretaria-salud-aprobara-pae-exclusivamente-casos-violacion-AC10746060>

<https://twitter.com/CDMHonduras/status/1587227443445862401>

MADJ and others invite to a second forum on the Aguán Valley, this time focusing on land rights.

<https://twitter.com/MovAmplioHn/status/1587188777700790275>

As requested last week, Foreign Minister cited the US ambassador Laura F. Dogu. She tweeted afterwards: "Open and honest communication facilitates our strong bilateral relationship focused on economic growth, security and strengthening democracy. The U.S. remains committed to Honduras - Vamos Adelante!"

Reina highlighted the importance of dignity. "We have to understand that a normal relationship leads to these schemes of dignity. It is true, the United States is extremely important for Honduras, extremely important for the thousands and millions of Honduran migrants who live there, but we are also important for the U.S. We should not live believing that we are less important for the U.S. We should not live believing that we are less important for Honduras."

Adrienne Pine wrote an open letter to the US ambassador on her recent statements that called for the meeting with Reina. Pine called for a new US policy towards Honduras based on a commitment to multilateralism, mutual respect and human dignity.

<https://twitter.com/USAmbHonduras/status/1587186535165841408>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/31/de-vez-en-cuando-hay-diferencias-pequenas-entre-nosotros-pero-esto-no-impacta-en-nuestras-relaciones-la-cooperacion-va-seguir-todo-el-tiempo-y-va-a-crecer-laura-dogu/>

<https://criterio.hn/canciller-de-honduras-propone-relacion-de-dignidad-y-no-de-mendicidad-con-ee-uu/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/31/canciller-enrique-reina-mantenemos-una-relacion-clara-y-franca-con-estados-unidos/>

<https://twitter.com/adriennepine/status/1587084418509934594?s=46&t=vUIt8DSRAbJCi3GBd7C-bw>

<https://criterio.hn/antropologa-estadounidense-pide-embajadora-dogu-que-cesen-de-intervenir-en-los-asuntos-soberanos-de-honduras/>

Three Europarlamentarians traveled to Honduras to meet with the Xiomara administration.

<https://ellibertador.hn/2022/10/31/eurodiputados-buscan-fortalecer-alianza-con-honduras/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/31/delegacion-de-euoparlamentarios-realizara-una-visita-oficial-a-honduras/>

"Today the Public Prosecutor's Office executed the operation called "Nemesis", within which there is an accusation for corruption crimes against Roberto Ordoñez Wolfvich, former minister of the Secretariat of Infrastructure and Public Services (INSEP), who in 2019 was included among the co-conspirators of drug trafficker and former congressman Juan Antonio Hernández. (...) It should be noted that with the resent accusation of the Public Prosecutor's Office, Wolfvich could evade US justice and avoid a possible extradition, since according to the agreement between Honduras and the US, for someone requested in extradition to be handed over to the requesting country, he must not have pending charges in his country of origin, so Roberto Ordoñez would have immunity until any process against him is closed or he serves a sentence imposed by the Honduran justice system."

<https://prohondurasnetwork.com/2022/10/31/sistema-judicial-de-honduras-blinda-posible-extradicion-de-uno-de-los-co-conspiradores-del-cartel-hernandez/>

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/31/mp-ejecuta-investigaciones-y-acusaciones-por-corrupcion-en-la-extinta-insep-contra-roberto-ordonez-y-roberto-pineda/>

The time to present an application for the Supreme Court election process ran out on midnight. Starting today, the review of files will begin to verify who meets all the requirements of the total number of applications. This should be done by November 5, then toxicology and psychometric tests will follow. There will also be a written test on November 14.

Criterio reports on some problematic applications and calls on the Nomination Board to sort them out.

<https://proceso.hn/que-sigue-despues-de-la-etapa-de-postulaciones-a-magistrados-de-la-csj-que-termina-hoy/>

<https://criterio.hn/junta-nominadora-debe-evitar-que-personas-corruptas-y-asociadas-al-crimen-organizado-lleguen-a-la-csj/>

According to UNAH's Violence Observatory, last year's homicide rate was 41.7 murders for every 100'000 inhabitant. Based on preliminary data from this year, they expect a homicide rate of 37.4 for 2022.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/10/31/honduras-registra-una-tasa-de-homicidios-de-41-7-en-2021-y-se-preve-cierre-el-2022-con-37-4/>

<https://madj.org/2022/10/31/queremos-energia-para-nuestras-comunidades-pero-con-justicia-y-respeto-a-los-derechos-humanos-y-de-la-naturaleza/>

02/11/22

Honduras Daily: Berta - FMO; LGBTIQ+ - SPS; Journalists; Hydroelectricity; Public Health; Extraditions; Migration - Deportations; Musk;

COPINH published a press release denouncing that the Dutch development bank FMO is installing a seat in Costa Rica. "With this action, it intends to advance its investments in the region, despite not having assumed its responsibility and not having made reparations to the victims of the violence it financed. (...) In addition, the FMO bank, together with its partners BCIE (Central American Bank for Economic Integration) and FinnFund, committed serious financial crimes that allowed the diversion of a substantial part of its funds, which financed the acts of violence by David Castillo and the Atala Zablah family. Through this mechanism of diversion of funds, a payment of 1.2 million dollars was made directly to David Castillo 3 days before the assassination of Berta Cáceres."

<https://copinh.org/2022/11/comunicado-el-banco-holandes-fmo-avanza-en-america-latina-sin-reparar-a-sus-victimas/>

OACNUDH condemned the attempted murder of LGBTIQ+ defender Arnaldo Díaz Bonilla on October 26 in La Ceiba.

<https://twitter.com/OACNUDDHN/status/1587825852162744321>

"Through a network that has influence throughout Chamelecón, the LGBTIQ+ population carries out activities related to raising awareness about the human rights of diverse people. On Friday they held a workshop in the Suyapa neighborhood."

<https://contracorriente.red/2022/11/02/poblacion-lgbtq-de-chamelecon-habla-sobre-sus-derechos-con-los-lideres-comunitarios-de-este-sector-de-san-pedro-sula/>

Yesterday was the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists. Over 90% of murders against journalist remain unpunished in Honduras.

<https://criterio.hn/2-de-noviembre-dia-internacional-para-poner-fin-a-la-impunidad-de-los-crmenes-contra-periodistas/>

The trial against the former deputy ministry of the now extinct Natural Resources Secretariat, Norman Gilberto Ochoa, was suspended and rescheduled for next year. He is accused of illegally granting an environmental license for the Aurora 1 hydroelectric project belonging to the former Nationalist congresswoman Gladys Aurora López.

<https://www.defensoresenlinea.com/juicio-y-castigo-exigen-indigenas-para-los-responsables-de-los-proyectos-hidroelectricos-que-han-causado-dolor-y-muerte-en-sus-comunidades/>

"The nursing professionals are walking towards Casa Presidencial in protest for the non-fulfillment of their rights. The large group of nurses left from their headquarters on Morazán Boulevard, and with slogans and banners they demand their rights. The demonstrators demand the delayed payment of salaries, salary increases, and respect for their labor rights."

<https://proceso.hn/profesionales-de-enfermeria-se-movilizan-en-protesta-a-casa-presidencial/>

According to the Security Minister Ramón Sabillón, there are some 27, 28 extradition requests pending.

<https://proceso.hn/hay-27-solicitudes-de-extradicion-pendientes-actualiza-ministro-de-seguridad/>

Almost half a million Hondurans have been deported since 2015.

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/11/02/mas-de-486400-hondurenos-indocumentados-han-retornado-al-pais-desde-2015/>

ConfidencialHN has more details on a possible deal between Elon Musk and the Xiomara administration (see some days ago). "On October 29, Chancellor Eduardo Enrique Reina stated that the government of Xiomara Castro had responded to an offer from Musk's company to make available the Starlink satellite network and provide internet connection, especially in schools and rural health centers."

<https://confidencialhn.com/blog/2022/11/02/empresa-de-elon-musk-negociara-con-el-gobierno-de-honduras-por-internet/>