

Military curfew in Honduras used to impose electoral fraud: Beatings, shootings & killings

Rights Action update & articles from The Guardian, Al Jazeera

- <http://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/military-curfew-in-honduras-being-used-to-impose-electoral-fraud>

Late on Dec. 1, 2017, the U.S. & Canadian-backed regime of Juan Orlando Hernandez (JOH) and the National Party suspended constitutional rights and imposed a military-police curfew in Honduras, to “safeguard security”. There is a growing list of reported cases of repression against anti-electoral fraud protesters and other citizens.

- **Emergency funding appeal:** see below
 - **What to do:** see below

“We condemn the military police for the assassination of Kimberly Dayanna Fonseca, Colonia Honduras neighborhood. JOH assassin!”



Gilberto Ríos grillo
@Grillo779



Condenamos el asesinato de la compañera Kimberly Dayanna Fonseca, por la Policía Militar en la Col. Honduras. ¡#JOH Asesino!



Witnesses say that military police killed the 19-year Kimberly:

<http://tiempo.hn/asesinan-a-una-joven-en-las-protestas-tegucigalpa/>

The military curfew gives complete authority to police and military to carry out any activities "to maintain peace". Reuters reports six wounded protesters were hit with live ammunition:

<https://es.reuters.com/article/topNews/idESKBN1DV41R-OESTP>

The Guardian article

Honduras troops shoot dead teenage girl amid election crisis protests

By Nina Lakhani, Dec.2, 2017

A teenage girl was killed as troops opened fire on unarmed protesters in the Honduran capital on Saturday, after the government declared a 10-day curfew and suspended constitutional rights in an attempt to contain an [escalating political crisis](#) fuelled by evidence of electoral fraud.

According to witnesses, Kimberly Dayana Fonseca, 19, was shot dead in Tegucigalpa in the early hours of Saturday morning by military police – members of a huge force loyal to the rightwing government of Juan Orlando Hernández, who is accused of meddling in the vote count after last Sunday's election in an attempt to cling to power.

There were reports of mass detentions and serious injuries overnight after the government deployed troops across the country in what many fear is a return to autocratic rule. At least four people were confirmed dead.

Six days after the election, the winner of the presidential race has still not been declared by the beleaguered electoral commission (TSE), which is controlled by Hernández's National party.

The opposition Alliance leader, Salvador Nasralla, was five points ahead until a spate of irregularities including mysterious delays in rural votes and computer glitches saw his seemingly insurmountable lead overturned.

“The fraud can no longer just be called fraud,” Eugenio Sosa, a sociologist and political analyst, told the Guardian. “This is a type of electoral coup against the president-elect, Salvador Nasralla.”

[...]

Full article: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/02/honduras-troops-shoot-dead-teenage-girl-curfew-election-crisis-protests?CMP=share_btn_tw

Military-backed Narco-mafia government



This spray-paint is much more than a slogan. Regime leader Juan Orlando Hernandez (JOH) – trying to steal the elections - is directly linked to organized crime and narco-trafficking.

The same is true for many of Honduras' political-economic-military elites that carried out the US & Canadian-backed coup in 2009. (More info: <https://www.insightcrime.org/honduras-organized-crime-news/>)

These are the very “political, economic leaders” that Canada signed a Free Trade Agreement with. In 2011, Canadian Prime Minister Harper became the very first foreign leader to visit Honduras, after the U.S. and Canadian backed coup of 2009. At the time, no other government in the Americas (except Canada and the U.S.) had recognized the legitimacy of the post-coup military-backed governments.

Harper's 2011 visit – leading a group of government officials and business executives from the mining, tourism and garment industries – not only aimed to 'legitimize the illegitimate' government in power in Honduras, but also led to the signing of precursor agreements that led to the Canada-Honduras free trade agreement (FTA). Co-signing these precursor agreements from Honduras was the post-military coup 'de facto' leader Porfirio Lobo, put in place by the Honduran military and coup plotters, and who is directly linked to organized crime and narco-trafficking; whose son is in jail in the U.S. on drug trafficking related crimes. (See reference above to InsightCrime)

Canadian lawyers, politicians, journalists and activists should question the legality of this FTA signed with an illegitimate, corrupt and repressive regime.

AlJazeera article

Honduras army, police crackdown on election unrest

by [Heather Gies](#)

[...] Unrest has [escalated since Wednesday](#) night, when thousands of people took to the streets after Hernandez eclipsed Salvador Nasralla [of the Opposition Alliance party] in the TSE (Supreme Electoral Council) partial official results following an hours-long silence due to "technical problems". The shift in the results contradicted what TSE magistrate Ramiro Lobo had called an "irreversible" trend towards Nasralla's victory on Monday. On Thursday, Lobo raised concerns about the TSE's technical issues and called for the situation to be investigated.

The TSE's slow delivery of results from [Sunday's election](#), and the sudden change in the direction of results in favour of [Juan Orlando] Hernandez after the first report of results, which initially showed a 5 percent lead for Nasralla with over half of ballots counted, has stirred suspicions of manipulations and fraud.

Opposition supporters also accuse TSE President David Matamoros of selectively processing votes to favour Hernandez and his National Party. Matamoros is an active member of the National Party and previously served as the party's general secretary and as a member of Congress.

[...] "Declaring who is the winner and who is the loser won't resolve the problem because the crisis is installed," COFADEH coordinator Bertha Oliva told Al Jazeera hours before the announcement of the curfew. "Impunity and militarisation are established in the country and there are no immediate proposals to assume shared responsibility for a new social pact," Oliva said, adding: "We are in the worst crisis the government could put us in."

Full article: <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/12/honduras-army-police-crackdown-election-unrest-171202085517700.html>

International human rights activist reports from Honduras

By Matt Ginsberg-Jaeckle & Victoria Cervantes

From: Presente-Honduras, on Behalf Of Victoria Cervantes

Sent: Saturday, December 2, 2017

Subject: Honduras Crisis Deepening Rapidly

Hello all, we need more action and to make our demand that the government stop the repression and violence against the people now. The situation is grim.

Our delegation came back to Tegucigalpa Wednesday, Dec.29, and have been in the streets accompanying the people since then. There still has not been an official announcement of the election results but several times a day there is an announcement with pie charts etc. that purports to show JOH very slowly overcoming the Alliance. Meanwhile, report after report arrives showing all kinds of fraud.

The repression is terrible - live bullets are being fired this evening in the neighborhood Pedregal with many wounded. Two members of our delegation just came back to the hotel after interviewing witnesses and victims at the public hospital. Our delegation with some journalists spent more than an hour this afternoon trying to get a young man out of the custody of the Military Police who had hit him and dragged him into where they have a headquarter set up at the INFOP where the ballots are stored and where there has been a day and a half of protest and repression. We succeeded in getting the police to set him free.

The people are absolutely beside themselves with grief and rage over what is shaping up to be a kind of military coup. There are highway blockades and protests around the country. In San Pedro Sula and Progreso there have been highways blocked and all of the toll booths have been burnt to the ground. In Siguatepeque today one of the major highways in the country has been shut down by protesters. In Tegucigalpa we overheard a taxi dispatch radio that there were at least 14 street blockings and bonfires blocking traffic around the country.

The apparent president-elect Salvador Nasralla, of the Opposition Alliance, gave a press conference yesterday in which he said that he rescinds his signature from an OAS (Organization of American States) document promising to recognize the election results because of the fraud committed and he won't recognize fraudulent results. Meanwhile the OAS delegation held a press conference today lamenting Salvador's position on the letter and calling on the people to be calm. That OAS statement has caused more outrage.

Here are some videos and photos. For videos and interviews in Spanish and some in English from our delegation go to [Honduras Resists](#) and look at Facebook Lavoz delosde Abajo.

<https://www.facebook.com/henryfernando.alegriaflores/videos/1511249818943548/>

Matt Ginsberg-Jaeckle & Victoria Cervantes

What to do ~ Demands of the U.S. and Canadian governments

The situation of electoral fraud and widespread repression in Honduras are problems the U.S. and Canada have helped create and enable through their political support for the military coup in 2009 and their economic, political and military support for the corrupt, repressive governments in power since then. The role that U.S. and Canadian governments, the U.S. military and many companies are playing in Honduras are as much U.S. and Canadian issues as are municipal, state, provincial and national issues inside our borders.

U.S.A.

In the U.S., call the U.S. Capital Switchboard to directly contact your Senators and Representatives: (202) 224-3121. Get their phone numbers and email addresses; send them copies of this and other information; politely insist that they agree to any and all of the following demands; share your efforts with the media, family, friends and networks.

CANADA

In Canada, find your MP by entering your postal code on this page:

<http://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members>. Get their phone numbers and email addresses; send them copies of this and other information; politely insist that they agree to any and all of the following demands; share your efforts with the media, family, friends and networks.

In the short term, the U.S. and Canadian governments and politicians must:

- Publicly condemn the multiple acts (open and covert) of documented electoral fraud being carried out by the corrupt, military-backed government of Juan Orlando Hernandez and the National party;
- Publicly condemn the suspension of constitutional rights, the imposition of a curfew and the acts of police and military repression happening across Honduras against anti-electoral fraud protesters and other citizens;
- State unequivocally that the government of Juan Orlando Hernandez and the National Party will be held fully accountable for any and all electoral fraud and repression taking place;
- Immediately suspend all economic, military, police and other “security” related relations with the corrupt, repressive government in power;

In the medium and longer terms, there must be legislative and senate inquiries in the U.S. and Canada into the underlying causes of Honduras’ now endemic situation of repression and exploitation, corruption and impunity, with a specific focus on:

- The role played by the U.S. and Canadian governments supporting and legitimizing the 2009 military coup;
- The role played by the U.S. and Canadian governments supporting and legitimizing the fraudulent and repressive elections in 2009 and 2013;
- The role played by the U.S. and Canadian governments supporting the expansion of corporate and investor interests in Honduras, in concert with the repressive, corrupt governments in power, in the areas of mining,

garment “sweatshop” industry, bananas, hydro-electric dams, tourism, and more;

More information

- Rights Action: www.rightsaction.org, www.facebook.com/rightsaction.org, @RightsAction
- Honduras Solidarity Network: <http://www.hondurassolidarity.org/>, <https://www.facebook.com/HondurasSolidarityNetwork>, <https://twitter.com/hondurassol>
- Witness for Peace: www.witnessforpeace.org, <https://twitter.com/WitnessforPeace>,
- School of Americas Watch: www.soaw.org, <https://twitter.com/SOAWatch>
- La Voz de los de Abajo: <https://www.facebook.com/lavozchicago/>, @lavozchicago

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.) – Emergency humanitarian relief funds

As the Honduran people are courageously protesting and saying no to electoral fraud and repression, they are suffering the consequences of military and police repression. Rights Action is sending emergency relief funds to our long-term partner groups in Honduras - like COPINH and OFRANEH - and other community groups as they continue with their community-controlled development, environmental and human rights defense work and their emergency response to the electoral fraud and repression work, make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- U.S.: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
- Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

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