

Rights Action  
September 1, 2018  
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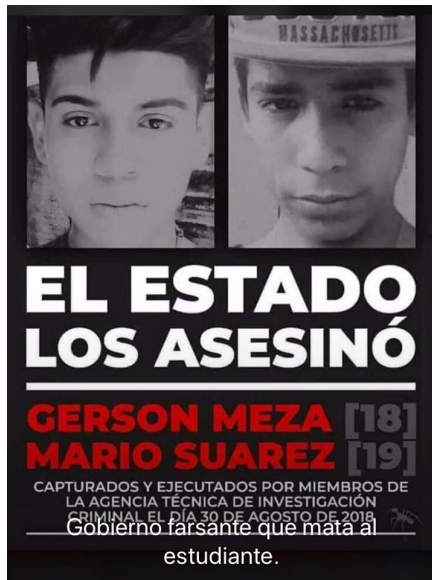
## **Students Gerson Meza & Mario Suarez assassinated by Honduran government death squads**

By Grahame Russell

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/student-activists-gerson-meza-mario-suarez-assassinated-by-honduran-government-death-squads>

In this heart-wrenching 15 second film clip, <https://www.facebook.com/100001880867455/posts/2250055525067121/>, ATIC police agents (Agencia Tecnica de Investigacion Criminal) detain Gerson Meza (18) and Mario Suarez (19) shortly before their beaten, assassinated bodies were dumped for all to see, hands and feet tied.





And this Honduran repression goes on and on

as killers walk free in Honduras - there has not been a single indictment for dozens of people killed by government forces since the stolen elections of November 2017, elections that were endorsed by the U.S. and Canada (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/aug/17/honduras-post-election-killings-families-wait-in-vain-for-justice>);

as Edwin Espinal (partner of Karen Spring, son-in-law of Janet Spring, of Elmvale Ontario) has been 8 months a political prisoner in a military jail for protesting the stolen elections and government killings (<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/7-months-counting-edwin-espinal-imprisoned-in-honduras>);

as the trial for the assassination of Berta Caceres and attempted killing of Gustavo Castro stumbles forward while the prosecution itself is withholding evidence (<https://truthout.org/articles/honduran-prosecutors-withhold-evidence-in-berta-caceres-murder-case/>);

as the Canadian mining company Aura Minerals continues its regime backed efforts to dig up and forcibly move the village of Azacualpa and its 200 year old cemetery (<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/no-to-aura-minerals-destruction-of-azacualpa-cemetery>);

as ....

When will the penny drop? When will we see the last straw?

When will the repression, impunity and corruption in Honduras break through the media silence and manipulation?

When will U.S. and Canadian politicians hold public, on-the-record hearings about 9 years of U.S. and Canadian support for and complicity with Honduras' repression, corruption and impunity?

The Pathological cycle of U.S. & Canadian policies in Honduras & Guatemala  
This is a depressing, repetitive story of a violent regime kept in power through its relations with rich, powerful countries like the U.S. and Canada, with the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank, and with global companies and investors, selling out its own resources and people (as cheap or discardable "labor"), using repressive, corruption and impunity to remain in power.

How many more Hondurans packed their meager belongings last night, after Gerson and Mario's tortured, assassinated remains were dumped for all to see, to try and flee north and get into Mexico or the U.S.?

There is no option here but to keep chipping away, supporting each and every struggle in Honduras, as best one can, while screaming and shouting, as best one can, to try and hold the U.S. and Canada – governments and private sector interests – to account.

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**Your donations at work: Organizations, individuals & projects Rights Action has funded as of August 15, 2018**

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/your-donations-at-work>

Dear friends, each struggle Rights Action supports is local and, at the same time, taking on the global economy, taking on the wealth and (oftentimes) violent

power of companies, investors and governments, near and far. In this link, a summary: Your funds at work / How to donate

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### **Keep on calling / Keep on writing**

(ask for responses, then call and write again)

United States

Contact your Senators (<https://whoismyrepresentative.com/>) and Congressmembers (<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>).

Canada

Contact your Member of Parliament

(<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members>) and ask them to write directly to:

Ambassador James Hill, Embassy of Canada in Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua, [James.Hill@international.gc.ca](mailto:James.Hill@international.gc.ca), [tglpa@international.gc.ca](mailto:tglpa@international.gc.ca)

Minister Chrystia Freeland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Global Affairs Canada, 1-613-992-5234, 1-343-203-1851; [chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca](mailto:chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca), [chrystia.freeland.c1d@parl.gc.ca](mailto:chrystia.freeland.c1d@parl.gc.ca), [chrystia.freeland@international.gc.ca](mailto:chrystia.freeland@international.gc.ca)

Honduran Ambassador to Canada

Sofia Cerrato Rodriguez: [ambassador@embassyhonduras.hn](mailto:ambassador@embassyhonduras.hn), 1-613-233-8900

Demands - short term

The U.S. and Canadian governments must:

Do an about face and rescind their “legitimization” of the Nov. 26, 2017 elections  
Condemn the multiple acts of electoral fraud carried out by government of Juan Orlando Hernandez

Condemn the repression including the killing of over 40 pro-democracy protesters, and the illegal detentions of dozens of political prisoners, including Edwin Espinal

Suspend all business and military-police-security relations with the government of Honduras, until the political / electoral crisis has been resolved and impartial justice processes are proceeded against the intellectual and material authors of the electoral fraud and stolen elections, and the endemic repression

Demands - medium term

There must be legislative inquiries in the U.S. and Canada into the causes of Honduras' now endemic repression and exploitation, corruption and impunity, with specific focus on the role played by the U.S. and Canadian governments:

In support of the 2009 military coup

In support and legitimization of fraudulent and violent elections in 2009, 2013 and 2017

In support (in the case of Canada) of the promoting and signing of the potentially illegitimate "Free Trade Agreement" with the government of Honduras;

In support of the expansion of corporate investments in Honduras (mining, garment "sweatshop" industry, bananas, hydro-electric dams, tourism, African palm, etc.), while turning a blind eye to and – in effect – benefitting from repression, fraud, corruption and impunity.

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More information

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Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

To support the work and struggle of our long-term partner groups in Honduras, responding to the human rights and repression crisis, including the political prisoners, 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

Credit-Card Donations: <http://rightsaction.org/donate/>

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