



# WOLAWEEKLY

The Latest on Latin America

Friday, April 14, 2023

Dear {{FirstName or 'WOLA Supporter'}},

As the U.S. and Mexico continue to impose barriers on asylum seekers, this week WOLA is particularly proud to have partnered with media outlet *Animal Político* and non-governmental organization IMUMI to present an investigative multimedia project that exposes the deportation of child and adolescent migrants from Mexico in 2022, despite landmark legal reforms created specifically to protect them. As well as several articles revealing crucial data, the *Niñez Migrante, Promesas de Papel* project includes a 20 minute documentary, illustrated case studies as well as graphs and a summary in English and Spanish.

Also this week, as the outrage continues over the death of 40 migrants following the fire at a migrant detention facility in Ciudad Juárez, WOLA's president Carolina Jiménez Sandoval spoke to Venezuelan news site *El Nacional* about the detrimental migration policies implemented by the US and Mexican governments.

With Covid restrictions increasingly behind us, WOLA is looking forward to hosting more in-person events. On April 19, we hope you will join us either in-person or virtually for a panel discussion with leading human rights activists on "Women Defending Peace in Colombia: A gendered environmental and rural perspective".

All this and more in this week's WOLA Weekly.

Best,



**Stephanie Brewer**

Director for Mexico



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 🇲🇽 WOLA partnered with Mexican media outlet, [Animal Político](#), to summarize and promote an extensive [investigation](#) and [documentary](#) on the Mexican government's failing to fulfill commitments made in the [2021 landmark legal reforms](#), which established a robust human rights protection system for accompanied and unaccompanied migrant minors and adolescents. Read more about [Migrant Children and Adolescents Are at Risk as Mexico and the United States Fail to Provide Protections](#).
- 🇺🇸 In our latest [Latin America Today](#) podcast, WOLA's Director for Defense Oversight interviews Geoff Ramsey, [Senior Fellow](#) for Venezuela and Colombia at the Atlantic Council, on negotiations to bring Venezuela back to a rights-

respecting democracy, the 2024 elections, the need for a clearer U.S. policy on Venezuela, and more. [Tune in](#) to learn more.



## JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT

**WOMEN DEFENDING PEACE IN COLOMBIA**  
A GENDERED, ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND RURAL PERSPECTIVE

Wednesday, April 19, 2023  
12:30pm - 2pm

WOLA  
1686 Connecticut Ave, NW,  
4th Floor, Washington, DC

ACT Iglesia Sueca - Diakonia, the Latin America Working Group Education Fund (LAWGEF), United States Institute for Peace (USIP), and the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) invite you to join us.

Panelists:

Angélica Romero Villalba, Collective Association Women in Law (ASOCOLEMAD)

Jani Rita Silva De Rengifo, Network We are Genesis (Somos Génesis)

Diana María Salcedo López, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF/LIMPAL COLOMBIA)

Introductions by Gimena Sanchez-Garzoli, WOLA and Steve Hege, USIP

Moderation by Lisa Haugaard, Latin America Working Group Education Fund (LAWGEF)

[REGISTER TO JOIN](#)

## U.S. MEXICO WEEKLY BORDER UPDATE



**WOLA Border Oversight**  
Advocacy for Human Rights in the Americas | Monitoring Conduct and Accountability in U.S. Border Law Enforcement

In April 2022, WOLA launched its one-of-a-kind [Border Oversight Database](#), which documents hundreds of reports of human rights violations and abuses against migrants and asylum seekers at the U.S.-Mexico border.

**WOLA IN THE NEWS**



**Ana María Méndez Dardón**  
Director for Central America



“The arbitrary blocking of candidates because they represent a danger to the [political] establishment is serious,” Ana María Méndez Dardón, the Central America Director for the Washington Office on Latin America, told Al Jazeera. “It has also brought little credibility to the institutions that have to ensure the integrity of the [electoral] process.”

– *Al Jazeera*, [Guatemala elections: Campaigning begins amid public distrust](#)

“On the one hand, we have the United States, which is the destination for most, that has closed the door to the right to seek asylum and has taken action against people from Venezuela, Nicaragua, Haiti and Cuba. On the other hand, there is Mexico, that agrees to implementing the wall that Donald Trump dreamed of.”



**Carolina Jiménez Sandoval**  
Director for Central America



– *El Nacional*, [Venezolanos en México: políticas migratorias inhumanas y el temor de que se repita la tragedia](#)

## Support the Sally Yudelman Internship Program

At WOLA, internships are critical to arming future generations of advocates with the necessary skills to champion human rights and social justice work in their careers. Please consider contributing to WOLA’s internship program today!



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