

# WOLA WEEKLY

The Latest on Latin America

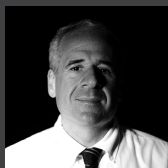
Friday, March 17, 2023

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

This week, we submitted an official objection to the Biden Administration's proposed asylum "transit ban," calling on the Departments of Homeland Security and Justice "to withdraw this rule in its entirety, to avoid endangering and immiserating migrants arriving at the U.S. southern border, and instead allocate resources toward vastly increased capacity for humane asylum processing, alternatives to detention, and fair adjudications." Members of the public have until March 27 to [submit comments](#), to which the administration must respond before implementing it. WOLA encourages you to submit your own comment.

We also published a statement in reaction to recent electoral reforms in El Salvador. WOLA is concerned by the Legislative Assembly's decision to repeal Article 291-A of the electoral code as this opens the door to a myriad of changes in the electoral process. The decision set alarm bells ringing for those who have been observing the elimination of checks and balances in El Salvador, particularly since Bukele [announced](#) in September 2022 that he would run for re-election next February despite the Constitutional ban. WOLA calls on the U.S government, the international community, and other relevant actors to work with the Electoral Tribunal, and recommends in-country electoral observation missions to ensure a comprehensive analysis of the electoral process.

This and more in this week's WOLA Weekly.



**Adam Isacson**

WOLA's Director for Defense Oversight



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 🇺🇸 WOLA and the Center for Democracy in the Americas ([CDA](#)) [issued a statement](#) welcoming the reintroduction of the Freedom to Export to Cuba Act and the [bipartisan letter](#) sent to President Biden urging reduced sanctions on Cuba's private sector.
- 🇺🇸 🗳️ [Biden's Transit Ban](#) is part of an edifice of asylum limitations and alternative pathways that the Biden administration is building ahead of the Title 42 authority's possible end on May 11, 2023. You can learn more in this [February 17 WOLA commentary](#).
- 🗳️ [WOLA calls on](#) the U.S. government, the international community, and other relevant actors, like the OAS and the European Union, to offer political and financial support for civil society and independent journalists that oversee the elections, promote the rule of law, and protect civil and political rights for Salvadorans.



## 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-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



**Carolina Jiménez Sandoval**  
President

"We have a region that is experiencing the third largest human mobility crisis in the world, but also desperate people fleeing their countries, where autocracies or very consolidated authoritarians rule,"

WOLA's President [Carolina Jiménez Sandoval](#) [tells Proavinci](#).

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

### WOLA IN THE REGION



WOLA's Director for the Andes, [Gimena Sánchez-Garzoli](#), and Program Assistant, [Kelsey Kotts](#), are currently traveling through Cali and Buenaventura, Colombia to meet with partners.

### LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO SUPPORT WOLA?



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