



Stephanie Brewer / WOLA

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

Ahead of the summit on Venezuela held in Bogotá this week, we wrote a [joint letter](#) to Colombian President Gustavo Petro with recommendations on putting human rights at the center of the dialogue and on finding solutions to the multiple crises affecting Venezuelans, including the lack of rule of law, co-optation of the justice system, rampant impunity, attacks on civil liberties, and grave human rights violations committed by the State.

We also [hosted a webinar](#) with Mexican civil society organizations to discuss the recent fire at the migrant detention center in Ciudad Juárez that killed 40 migrants and exposed severe mismanagement and corruption within Mexico's National Migration Institute. We provided recommendations for improving Mexico's migration policy and underscored the urgent need for the Biden administration to prioritize access to protection at the border as Title 42 comes to an end. As we explore new means of communicating to a diverse audience, we distributed an [audiogram](#) on social media immediately after this event.

Lastly, we celebrated WOLA partner and human rights defender, María Herrera Magdaleno, for her recognition by TIME magazine as one of the [100 Most Influential People of 2023](#) for her leadership in the relentless search for Mexico's disappeared, including four of her sons.

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

Best,



**Maureen Meyer**

Vice President for Programs



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- co On April 20, 2023, President Petro and President Biden met to discuss climate change, counter narcotics trafficking, regional migration, and more. Read more about this [meeting](#). *This article is in Spanish.*
- co ve WOLA signed a [joint letter](#) to President Petro to ensure that the grave human rights violations committed by the State in Venezuela were addressed during the Bogota Summit. *This letter is in Spanish.*
- mx WOLA [hosted a webinar](#) with members of Mexican civil society to discuss the fire at a migrant detention center in Ciudad Juárez and how it ties into U.S.-Mexico migration policies. *This event is in Spanish.*
- mx This week, WOLA [celebrated the recognition](#) of partner and human rights defender, María Herrera Magdaleno, who [spoke out](#) against the 100 thousand+ disappearances in Mexico.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



Adam Isacson, Director for Defense Oversight, speaks on the latest [A Fondo podcast](#), about President Petro's visit last week with President Biden.

LISTEN NOW



On Earth Day, WOLA highlighted Colombian social leader and 2023 Nobel Peace Prize Award nominee, Jani Rita Silva De Rengifo, who spoke about her work leading reforestation efforts in the Amazon along with other rural women in the department of Putumayo, and her call for climate and drug policies that are respectful of both human and environmental rights.

WATCH THE INTERVIEW

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT

# PRIMER ENCUENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE MUJERES ANTERIORMENTE ENCARCELADAS



EVENTO PÚBLICO DE CLAUSURA

Jueves 4 de mayo de 2023

17:00 - 19:00

Salón Monserrate,  
Hotel Tequendama  
Carrera 10 # 26 - 21, Bogotá.

Evento Híbrido

- Ingreso libre
- Transmisión en vivo



Dejusticia



WOLA

REGISTER TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY



This week, WOLA alongside partner organization, Veteranos por Colombia, hosted a hybrid event and attended meetings on the Hill, with other NGOs, to advance peace, truth, and reconciliation with a focus on gender and afro-descendants in Colombia.

## WOLA IN THE NEWS

"The points of agreement represent more or less where the international community was before the conference..."

– *Al Jazeera*, [‘Very difficult’: Challenges abound after summit on Venezuela](#)



Carolina Jiménez Sandoval  
President



Maureen Meyer  
Vice President for Programs



"The (Biden) administration recognizes that at this point, they really need Mexico as a partner on its enforcement efforts..."

– *Reuters*, [Mexico's treatment of migrants raises concern ahead of U.S. policy shift](#)

"Guatemala's justice system has become the repressive branch... against freedom of expression and human rights" WOLA

– [Prensa Comunitaria](#)

*This tweet is in Spanish.*

*Translation above by WOLA.*



## 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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1666 Connecticut Ave NW  
Suite 400, DC 20009  
United States

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