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
12:30 pm - 2 pm

WOLA, 1565 Connecticut Ave, NW

ACT (Iglesias Sociales, 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 this special event.

Panelists:

- Ángelica Romero Villalta, Collective Association Women in Law (ASCOLEMD)
- Javi Rito Silva Du Requiste, Network Women for Genesis (Somas, Genesis)
- Diana María Sánchez Gómez, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF, COLOMBIA)

Introduction by Gimena Sánchez-Garzúa, WOLA and Steve Hege, USIP

Moderated by Lisa Mougaard, Latin America Working Group Education Fund (LAWGEF)

**U.S. MEXICO WEEKLY BORDER UPDATE**

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**
“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.”

– 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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