



WOLA WEEKLY

The Latest on Latin America

Friday, January 20, 2023

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

As the political crisis continues to unravel in Peru, with dozens of people killed since the protests began, WOLA and other international human rights and environmental organizations [published a joint statement](#) calling on the Biden administration to publicly denounce the human rights violations perpetrated by Peruvian [security forces](#).

In [Mexico](#), while the General Law Against Disappearances has been in force for five years, gaps in implementation remain as thousands of families continue to search for their loved ones. Together with our Director for Mexico, Stephanie Brewer, I will be participating in an in-person discussion alongside the producers of the podcast "[After Ayotzinapa](#)", and the former prosecutor for the investigation, to explore the unresolved case of the enforced disappearance of 43 Mexican college students in 2014.

Finally, this week marked the 30th anniversary of the signing of the peace accords that brought an end to the civil war in El Salvador. Three decades on, serious human rights challenges remain in the country, particularly around the independence of the judicial system and the rule of law.

That and much more in today's WOLA weekly.




Best,



Maureen Meyer
WOLA's Vice President for Programs



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

-  Take a look at this [investigation](#) WOLA published in 2022, where we explore the crisis of disappearances in Mexico as well as possible strategies to approach it in order to secure justice for the victims and their families.
-   As violent repression of protests by the security forces in Peru continues, WOLA and other international NGO's called upon the U.S. government to urgently express its unambiguous rejection of disproportionate and excessive use of force against protestors and arbitrary detentions in Peru. Read the [joint statement](#).

After Ayotzinapa: Mexico's Disappeared 43



Thursday, Jan. 26, 6-8 p.m.
Busboys & Poets @ 2021 14th ST NW, Washington, D.C. 20009

On September 26, 2014, students from the Ayotzinapa rural college in Guerrero, Mexico, were attacked by police. Forty-three of them were taken away in the backs of police trucks and never seen again. The crime shook the country, sparked international outcry and exposed the extent of complicity between the government and organized crime in the context of a decades-long U.S.-Mexico “war on drugs.” More than eight years later, the vast majority of the 43 students remain missing – and are among the estimated 110,000 victims of disappearance in Mexico today.

Join us for a conversation about the Ayotzinapa case, the government cover-up that followed, and the new investigation that unraveled. We’ll also discuss the ongoing crises of forced disappearance and impunity in Mexico.

PANELISTS:

Kate Doyle and Anayansi Diaz-Cortes, reporters of the three-part After Ayotzinapa podcast. The New York Times named the series one of the best podcasts of 2022.

Omar Gómez Trejo, lead prosecutor in the Ayotzinapa case from 2019-2022

Stephanie Brewer, WOLA’s Director for Mexico

Moderator: **Maureen Meyer**, WOLA’s Vice President for Programs



Register at: <https://bit.ly/ayotzinapa-dc>



[Register for the event here](https://bit.ly/ayotzinapa-dc)



Venezuela Negotiations: Light at the End of the Tunnel?

Late last year, the government of Nicolás Maduro and a coalition of opposition groups announced the restart of talks aimed at resolving the Venezuelan crisis. At the same time, the Biden administration began loosening sanctions by granting a license allowing Chevron to bring Venezuelan oil into US markets. Do these talks hold a realistic prospect for finding a solution to the country's political conflict? Will they yield an agreement leading to free and fair elections and the lifting of economic sanctions? Will negotiations help improve the human rights situation in Venezuela, or will they simply help consolidate Maduro's hold on power?

Join us for a panel discussion with:



Francisco Rodríguez
Rice Family Professor
Josef Korbel School



Carolina Jimenez Sandoval
Washington Office on Latin
America (WOLA)



Michael Penfold
Wilson Center



Luis Vicente León
Datanálisis polling
company

Moderator

Guest Speakers

Date

Wednesday, January 25th
12:00-1:30 PM

Venue

The Forum (Room 1020) SIE Complex

Webinar



<https://jdenver.zoom.us/j/9124AmDRZK8cF5?pwd=9124AmDRZK8cF57MD2A>

Register Now!



<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/venezuela-negotiations-light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel-tickets-491304378237>

Lunch will be served!



Josef Korbel School
of International Studies
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

Institute for Comparative
and Regional Studies

[Register for the event here](#)



Weekly U.S.-Mexico 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-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



Stephanie Brewer
Director for Mexico



By investing so much in pushing the border out, the U.S. is "giving the Mexican government this strangely disproportionate role and power in terms of apparently controlling U.S. southern border arrivals or enforcement."

WOLA's Director for Mexico [Stephanie Brewer](#) told [The Intercept](#)

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO SUPPORT WOLA?

A promotional banner for WOLA. On the left, a person is shown from the chest up, holding a flag with blue and white horizontal stripes against a blue sky with clouds. The WOLA logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the image. On the right, a dark grey background contains the text "Create lasting impact for human rights in Latin America." Below the banner is a red button with the word "DONATE" in white capital letters.



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1666 Connecticut Ave NW
Suite 400, DC 20009
United States

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