



WOLA WEEKLY

The Latest on Latin America

Friday, June 30, 2023

(Sergio Borbolla/WOLA)

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

On Monday, June 26, WOLA observed [World Refugee Day](#) and the [International Day in Support of Victims of Torture](#). We continue to see cases of human rights violations committed against refugees and victims of torture throughout the Americas. That is why our experts work tirelessly to ensure that governments and human rights violators are being held accountable for their actions.

On the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, WOLA signed a [joint letter](#) speaking out against the current situation in Nicaragua. Additionally, this week, WOLA President, Carolina Jiménez, [commented](#) on the International Criminal Court's decision to allow prosecutors to continue investigating Crimes Against Humanity in Venezuela. Lastly, WOLA observed the [International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking](#) by highlighting the need for decriminalization and investment in harm reduction drug policies via a health-based approach.

WOLA's experts have stood up and advocated for victims, particularly when they were not able to do so themselves. While we continue to work towards a more just and humane society, we urge our supporters to [deepen their commitment](#) to our work. With your generous gift, our experts will be able to:

- Travel to Latin America to meet with allies, partners, and victims to get a first-hand understanding of the complexities on-the-ground and to speak directly to the stakeholders involved.
- Be equipped with the necessary tools and resources to publish detailed communications pieces to inform a variety of audiences about human rights violations occurring in the hemisphere.
- And, work closely with policymakers at home and in the region to ensure that human rights-respecting policies are in place to protect all people throughout the Americas.

As we continue to champion human rights throughout the region, I hope you will consider [supporting the work](#) of our experts both now and in the years to come.

Please note that WOLA Weekly will be taking a short break next week and will resume on July 14, 2023. We wish you a Happy Fourth of July weekend.

Best,



Lauren Kimball

Vice President for Development

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 🌐 As we commemorate [International Day in Support of Victims of Torture](#) and [World Refugee Day](#), WOLA condemns the use of torture and human rights violations in the Americas and demands accountability.
- 🇺🇸 This week, WOLA signed on to a [joint letter](#) speaking out against torture and repression in Nicaragua. *This letter is in Spanish.*
- 🇨🇴 On [June 27](#), the International Criminal Court authorized the Prosecutor's Office to continue investigating Crimes Against Humanity in Venezuela. [Read more](#) about what WOLA's President, Carolina Jiménez, had to say about this.
- 🇨🇴 On June 28, the International Office for Human Rights Office-Action Colombia coordinated a [shadow report](#) with a coalition of sixty-seven international coordination groups and organizations, including WOLA. The report hones in on the human rights situation in Colombia from 2018-2022 and the ongoing violations despite political change.
- 🇺🇸 From the southern border of Mexico, Stephanie Brewer calls on both the US and Mexican governments to ensure migrant rights and access to asylum. Listen to her audiogram [here](#).



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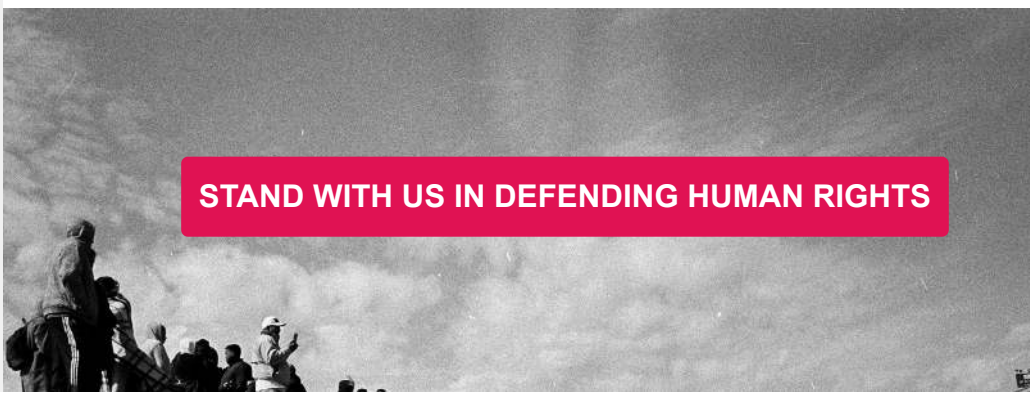
wola_org 1. Every day, hundreds of migrants and asylum seekers cross the Suchiate River on the Mexico-Guatemala border. For many, here starts the final leg of a long journey across Mexico with the goal of reaching the United States, while others seek refuge in Mexico. As they cross Mexico, the families face the same dangers they are fleeing such as violence and constant fear. A WOLA delegation visited the border in June 2023. As part of #WorldRefugeeDay,



50 likes
JUNE 20

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STAND WITH US IN DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS





IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



👥 From May 2 to 4, 2023, WOLA sponsored the historic international convening of more than 60 formerly incarcerated women from 17 countries around the world in Bogotá, Colombia. Watch the full event [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS



ABUSO DE PODER EN EL NORTE DE CENTROAMÉRICA: POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS QUE VIOLAN LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS

PANELISTAS:



Zaira Navas
Jefa Jurídica de Estado de
Derecho y Seguridad, Cristosal



Abraham Ábrego
Director de Litigio
Estratégico, Cristosal



David Morales
Jefe de Justicia
Transicional, Cristosal

MIÉRCOLES 12 de julio
de 2023

1:00 A.M. CENTROAMÉRICA
12:00 P.M. CT
10:00 A.M. PT
1:00 P.M. ET

Regístrese aquí: bit.ly/42vz1v8

Interpretación simultánea del español al inglés.



[Learn More About This Event](#)

WEEKLY BORDER UPDATE



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-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



"It is not a group that is necessarily diverse in terms of really representing the Guatemalan population. We don't see Indigenous candidates, Indigenous women, for example."

– *AP News*, [Guatemala voters send 2 presidential candidates on opposite sides of political spectrum to a runoff](#)

"The region as a whole should find a way to adopt measures that make the most of these qualified migrants and the talent that they bring to the table." *This quote is in Spanish.*

– *Aula Abierta Venezuela*, [El caminar de los migrantes venezolanos, un drama al que no se le ve fin](#)



Laura Dib
Director for Venezuela



"Reinterpreting constitutions and practicing gerrymandering to have presidents re-elected and to promote political parties that otherwise could not be re-elected are not new ideas." *This quote is in Spanish.*

– *ElSalvador.com*, ["Reinterpretar constituciones y hacer cambios político-territoriales no son nuevas ideas", según la presidenta del WOLA](#)



Carolina Jiménez Sandoval
President



JOB OPENING

📌 WOLA is looking for its next **Finance and Operations Coordinator**, to make WOLA run smoothly and efficiently for all employees. We are passionate about our work and strive to make our organization a healthy and safe space for all to work and feel appreciated. Learn more [here](#).



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