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

As you may recall, on June 27, 2023 it was announced that the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) would resume his investigation on crimes against humanity allegedly committed in Venezuela since 2014. Following an investigation in fits and starts and a government sponsored disinformation campaign, WOLA published *Combating Disinformation: Venezuela’s Case Before the International Criminal Court*, a series of questions and answers to shine a light on this complex process. For more details, take a look at our report.

This week, WOLA signed a joint statement and a press release advocating for the Biden administration’s continued assistance and support in fully implementing Colombia’s 2016 Peace Accord and moving negotiations between the ELN and the Colombian government forward.

Additionally, Senior Fellow, Coletta Youngers, published an article about the need for better alternatives to imprisonment for women in the Americas.

In other news, a new wave of protests took place in Lima, Peru last week as Peruvians urged the Boluarte government and Congress to offer solutions to the ongoing democratic and humanitarian crisis. At WOLA, we remain committed to monitoring the situation in Peru as we join the international community in urging the government to respect the country’s citizens’ right to protest.

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

Best,

Laura Dib  
Director for Venezuela

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**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- 🇻🇪 On June 27, 2023, it was announced that the International Criminal Court (ICC) would resume its investigation on alleged crimes against humanity that occurred in Venezuela dating back to February 2014. Due to the ongoing process of this investigation, WOLA published a Q&A and an in-depth report.
As we continue to monitor the situation in Peru, WOLA joins international human rights organizations in urging the Peruvian state to respect the right to peaceful protest.

This week, WOLA signed on to a joint statement with the Latin America Working Group in an effort to encourage U.S. policymakers to continue its support in advancing peace in Colombia.

Additionally, WOLA joined U.S. civil society organizations in expressing support for U.S. assistance in implementing peace in Colombia while also encouraging the Biden Administration to strengthen their support and diplomacy efforts.

WOLA’s Senior Fellow, Coletta Youngers, published an article highlighting the need for more humane alternatives to imprisonment for women in the Americas, following a recent CIDH report.

Last week, WOLA’s Central America program met with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary Roig to discuss our efforts in advancing human rights, justice, security, and transparency in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

STAND WITH US IN DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS

UPCOMING EVENTS
On July 27, WOLA’s Director for the Andes, Gimena Sánchez, joins a new episode of Colombia Acuerdo Paz to talk with U.S. Colombian Ambassador, Luis Gilberto Murillo, about recent U.S. congressional discussions on Colombia.
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’S 50th ANNIVERSARY

SAVE THE DATE

CELEBRATE WOLA’S 50th ANNIVERSARY

WOLA is turning 50! We will host our 50th Anniversary Human Rights Awards and Benefit Gala on May 9, 2024.

The Hamilton Room
Washington, DC

Mark your calendars for former human rights champions from WOLA’s past, present, and future.

Join us as a Gala sponsor. Partner level sponsors and above will also be invited to an intimate reception on September 23, 2023 at the Medium Cultural Institute to commemorate fifty years since the Chilean coup that led to the founding of WOLA.

The September 2023 reception and the May 2024 Gala will be part of a series of events over the next year to mark WOLA’s 50 years of fighting for human rights across the Americas.

www.wola.org/wola-50th-anniversary

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY

WOLA IN THE NEWS

“All human beings deserve the opportunity to defend themselves in court. How can they do this effectively in group trials? How can lawyers and public defenders do their work this way?”

– The Guardian, El Salvador clears way for mass trials as crackdown on gangs ramps up

Carolina Jiménez Sandoval
President
As a result of the GIEI announcing its end to its work on the Ayotzinapa case, Stephanie states, "Unfortunately, the GIEI is leaving not because there is truth and justice for the families, but because it does not have the conditions to advance further." 

"Since 2021, the city of Eagle Pass, along the banks of Rio Grande and just a few hours from San Antonio, has been a prime crossing point for people seeking to turn themselves in to U.S. authorities and ask for asylum, as is their legal right. [...] On Sept. 1 last year, 13 migrants drowned there. Earlier in 2022, authorities had recovered 12 bodies from the river in a single day."

– MSNBC, Texas' plan to make crossing the Rio Grande more dangerous is inhumane. This is an op-ed written by Adam Isacson.

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.

DONATE TODAY