



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

As this week draws to a close and migration levels globally and in the Americas reach record levels, WOLA would like to provide some [context](#) to what is really happening.

Above all we want to remind policymakers, the media, and the general public that most migrants currently arriving on U.S. soil are exercising their [right to asylum](#) as enshrined in the Refugee Convention, ratified by the U.S. in 1968, and the Refugee Act of 1980.

Many of them are fleeing authoritarian regimes in countries like Venezuela, Cuba, and Nicaragua, while others are escaping crushing poverty, violence, and persecution in Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, and elsewhere. And while many migrants are coming to the U.S., millions have also settled in countries throughout Latin America such as Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Mexico.

Tens of thousands of individuals and families who are escaping violence and persecution in Latin America and elsewhere have undertaken the treacherous journey to seek protection in the United States and the number of people in need is only likely to increase.

That is why WOLA is determined to continue to provide in-depth analysis, to advocate for a more humane U.S. asylum system that puts people at its core, and to provide [resources](#) to support asylum cases in the U.S.

Thank you for your support and your interest in our WOLA Weekly.

Best,



**Maureen Meyer**  
Vice President for Programs

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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 🇺🇸 🇲🇽 As we continue to see an uptick of migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border, WOLA [states](#) that migration cannot and should not be blocked but rather, we should find more humane and just ways of managing it.
- 🇬🇹 Guatemalans are protesting due to arbitrary actions taken by the Public Ministry of Guatemala that put the electoral process and democratic stability at risk. WOLA, alongside international human rights organizations, [remind](#) the Guatemalan government to respect the democratic right to protest.
- 🇺🇸 🇬🇧 Adam Isacson, WOLA's Director for Defense Oversight, discusses the legality of current migration at the U.S.-Mexico border in this short [video](#).



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**STAND WITH US IN DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS**

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**🇺🇸 IN CASE YOU MISSED IT 🇺🇸**

**COLOMBIA**  
ACUERDO DE PAZ

PROGRAMA ESPECIAL

COLOMBIA, ACUERDO DE PAZ:  
LA GUERRA DE UCRANIA REDUCE FONDOS DE SUECIA  
PARA AMERICA LATINA

FECHA LUNES  
Octu'

5:30 PM Colombia/  
Minnesota  
central EEUU

6:30 PM Washington  
D.C ESTE

CLAUDIA POLO

GIMENA SÁNCHEZ

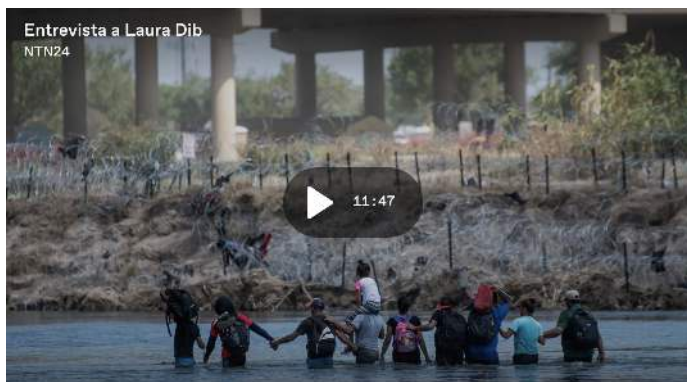
Shaman/B  
Defensor de DDHH

**OFUNSHI Y SUS INVIT.**

WOLA la Nueva Prensa Race & Equality Contagi Semilla

🇨🇴 In this week's episode of [Colombia Acuerdo de Paz](#), Gimena Sánchez, WOLA's Director for the Andes, speaks on how the war in Ukraine has impacted Swedish funds to Latin America.

## WOLA IN THE NEWS



*Laura Dib, Director for Venezuela*

– NTN24, [“Los Estados tienen que garantizar el principio de no devolución”: Laura Dib sobre anuncio de deportaciones de venezolanos en EE. UU.](#)



"Venezuela's conflict and the potential for an electoral solution should be on the agenda of international stakeholders."

*Laura Dib, Director for Venezuela*  
*David Smilde, WOLA Senior Fellow*

– *Responsible Statecraft*, [Venezuela's hottest election in years](#)



"To think in good faith that we can safely return people seems to contradict our own government's conclusions from a few weeks ago,"

*Maureen Meyer, VP for Programs*

– VICE News, [The US Government is Sending Migrants Back to a Narco State](#)



*Maureen Meyer, VP for Programs*

– ITV News, [Biden administration to resume US deportation flights for Venezuelan migrants as arrivals grow](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**JOIN US | IN-PERSON EVENT**  
 Thurs, October 19, 2023 | 6:00 PM EST  
 National Press Club, 529 14th Street, NW, 13th floor

**In the Mouth of the Wolf: A Conversation about Press Freedom in Mexico**

Join us on **October 19** for a conversation between Katherine Corcoran, author of "In the Mouth of the Wolf", an account of the murder of reporter Regina Martinez in a context of violence against the press in Mexico, and Alfredo Corchado, Border and Mexico correspondent for The Dallas Morning News and author of "Homelands" and "Midnight In Mexico".

**Featuring:**  
 Kathy Corcoran  
 Author & Investigative Journalist

Alfredo Corchado  
 Author & Border/Mexico correspondent  
 The Dallas Morning News

**Co-Sponsors:**  
 National Association of Hispanic Journalists, American University chapter, PBS Public Editor, Washington Office on Latin America

**INTERESTED IN ATTENDING?**  
 RSVP to Ricardo Sandoval-Palos  
[rsandovalpalos@pbs.org](mailto:rsandovalpalos@pbs.org)

[LEARN MORE](#)





## 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.

### WEEKLY CULTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- 🎉 Learn more about ways to celebrate [Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month](#).
- 🎬 Check out the upcoming [Double Exposure Investigative Film Festival](#) in Washington D.C.
- 🎭 [Phantom Parrot playing](#) at the Washington D.C. MLK Memorial Library on November 4.

### JOB OPENINGS

📍 WOLA is looking for it's next **Finance and Operations Coordinator** who will support the Vice President of Finance and Operations with day-to-day bookkeeping, accounts payable and receivable, and general virtual and in-person office support.

LEARN MORE

### WOLA IS LOOKING FOR ITS NEXT COHORT OF SALLY YUDELMAN INTERNS



Gain hands-on experience in  
Research and Advocacy at WOLA!

APPLY TO INTERN AT  
WOLA FOR SPRING



**DEADLINE TO APPLY: OCTOBER 31**

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