



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

In yet another setback for democracy in Guatemala, members of Movimiento Semilla, the party of president elect Bernardo Arévalo, were arrested this week, alongside human rights defenders, students and academics. WOLA led the signing of a [joint statement](#) to denounce the latest in a series of attacks on the country's electoral process. The statement has received over 90,000 views on social media.

Back in Washington D.C, WOLA has been objecting to Congress using the right to asylum as leverage in budget negotiations. My [explainer](#) analyzes why current demands made by Republicans threaten to be a human rights catastrophe.

In the meantime in Argentina, far-right libertarian Javier Milei has made it to the second round of presidential elections which take place on Sunday. He has frightening proposals which are a threat to human rights. WOLA's Gimena Sánchez Garzoli will be on the ground in Buenos Aires to monitor the situation.

And finally this week in Bogotá, Senior Fellow Coletta Youngers, who has spearheaded WOLA's project on women and incarceration over many years, launched *Liberarlas es Justicia*, an [in-depth report](#) that looks at the groundbreaking efforts to revert the stigma against women incarcerated for minor drug related activities in Latin America.

All this and more in this week's WOLA Weekly,

Adam Isacson



**Adam Isacson**  
Director for Defense Oversight

- 🇺🇸 In this [explainer](#), WOLA analyzes how the right to asylum is at risk in the U.S
- 👤♀ WOLA [launched a report](#) in partnership with Dejusticia and IDPC on our decade-long struggle to implement just policies for women incarcerated for drug related activities. [Watch the panel discussion here](#) *In Spanish*.

*"When you take a close look at those who are inside, you realize that the damage to society is much greater if you lock them up, because they are heads of households, single mothers, vulnerable women [...]"*.

-Coletta Youngers, WOLA Senior Fellow in [El País](#).  
*In Spanish*.

- 🇸🇻 In this [joint statement](#) that has garnered over 90K views on social media, WOLA expresses concern following government interference in the electoral process in Guatemala. *In Spanish*.
- 🌐 WOLA [hosted an event](#) with partners from the region to discuss how to address the impact of crowd control weapons on civilians. *In Spanish*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### COMMEMORATING & TAKING STOCK ON THE 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLOMBIA'S 2016 ACCORD

**NOVEMBER 30TH, 2023  
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM**

**ELLIOTT SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
LINDNER COMMONS, ROOM 602  
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

Join us to hear from experts on how far the agreement has advanced overall, as well as a specific focus on the Ethnic Chapter and transitional justice.



**DANILO RUEDA**  
COLOMBIA'S HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PEACE



**CARLOS ROSERO**  
COLOMBIA DELEGATION FOR THE ELN DIALOGUES



**JENNIE LINCOLN**  
THE CARTER CENTER



**GIMENA SANCHEZ-GARZOLI**  
WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA

Simultaneous translation from Spanish to English will be available for in-person attendees.

The event will be livestreamed in Spanish at [wola.org](http://wola.org)

Light refreshments will be provided.

**RSVP HERE**








**REGISTER TO ATTEND**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**SYNTHETIC REALITIES:**  
GLOBAL DRUG POLICIES BEYOND THE "NEW THREAT" NARRATIVE  
Side Event - 78th session of the UN General Assembly

Synthetic drugs are displacing plant-based substances due to ease of production and ability to evade enforcement efforts. Prohibition measures drive an unpredictable and toxic drug supply, resulting in a devastating overdose crisis in North America. The international community must promote policy change that centres affected communities, reduces harm production, ensures access to essential medical care & draws lessons from the failed "war on drugs".

**Speakers:**  
Keynote: Professor Adonis Karamitros, Global Commission on Drug Policy  
• Erika van der Grinten - Chief, Mexico, Switzerland, Trócaire, Ireland, Netherlands  
• Thelma Necker - Managing Director of U.S. Foreign Policy Group, Drug Policy Alliance, USA  
• Andrew Daniels - Executive Director and Executive Director, Canadian Association of People who Use Drugs  
• Lisa Sanchez - Executive Director, Mexico Unido Contra la Delincuencia  
• Scott Hesse - Head of Strategic Programs and Partnerships, Prohibitio  
Moderator: Ann Finkham - Executive Director, International Drug Policy Consortium

Register via:  
bit.ly/49A00J

**THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER**  
10:00-11:30 New York / 15:00 - 16:30 London / 16:00 - 17:30 Vienna  
The event will be in English and recorded.



**REGISTER TO ATTEND**

## WOLA IN THE NEWS



"In Latin America there continue to be more opportunities for democratic promotion than in other parts of the world."

**Carolina Jiménez Sandoval,**  
*President of WOLA*

– *El País*, [Carolina Jiménez, human rights specialist: 'In Latin America, there are still more opportunities for democratic promotion than in other parts of the world'](#)



"The history of indolence and impunity evident in the Accomarca case is being repeated with the 2022-2023 massacres. Also the policy of stigmatization of victims" *This quote has been translated as the article is in Spanish.*

**Jo-Marie Burt,** *Senior Fellow*

– *La República*, [Dos audiencias, la misma impunidad, por Jo-Marie Burt](#)

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Please consider making a gift to support the creation of our Weekly Newsletter, and all areas of our human rights advocacy work, by clicking the button below.

**SUPPORT OUR WORK**

Thank you!

# 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.



📸 Last week, WOLA hosted several events with partner organizations. [Check out our photo & video album!](#)

## FLASHBACK FRIDAY'S



As we begin to gear up for 50th Anniversary events, take a look back at one of our 2022 WOLA Human Rights Award honorees whose [story](#) left an impact on us.

**DONATE TODAY**

***Please note that next week there will be no WOLA Weekly.  
We wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving!***



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