



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

This year has brought the human rights community many wins and losses. We have overcome obstacles in U.S. policies, advocated for human-rights respectful policies across the Americas, and stood alongside partners, civil society, and international organizations in the fight for human rights in Latin America.

While we gear up for what is to be a year full of challenges and opportunities, our work for 2023 has not ended. This week, I [spoke](#) at a press conference with [Congresswoman Norma Torres](#), [Congressman Joaquin Castro](#), and [Congresswoman Delia Ramirez](#) and representatives of U.S. and Guatemalan civil society to call for the peaceful transition of power in Guatemala and an end to the Public Prosecutor Office's interference in the electoral process.

On December 14, Stephanie Brewer, Director for Mexico, and Adam Isacson, Director for Defense Oversight, spoke at the [Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission hearing](#) to discuss human-rights based approaches to combating organized crime while guaranteeing the rights and protection of its victims in Latin America, with a particular focus on Mexico, El Salvador, and Colombia.

In other news, this week WOLA's Director for the Andes, Gimena Sánchez-Garzoli, spoke at the *Moving Past the Monroe Doctrine Toward a New Era in U.S.-Latin American Relations* event organized with the Office of Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez,

where she discussed the legacy of Plan Colombia and made recommendations to U.S. policymakers about the promotion of peace and human rights in Colombia, Brazil and Argentina.

Our work in Congress this week also led us to join the voices of [those opposing](#) the current budget negotiations in Congress that would further limit legal migration pathways, including asylum.

It has been an intense week, but we wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the continued support of our community. Thank you for reading our Weekly Newsletters each week, for standing alongside us in what was a busy year, and generously supporting our work. We are deeply grateful.

As this year comes to an end, I would like to wish you and your families a happy holiday and prosperous new year!

Warm Wishes,



Maureen Meyer



Vice President for Programs



IN OTHER NEWS...


- 🇦🇷 On December 10, President-elect Javier Milei was inaugurated. While many Argentinians see Milei as a breath of fresh air, there is still much [uncertainty](#) around his policy-making decisions and their implications.
- 🇧🇮 As Honduras continues to face pervasive corruption, [learn more](#) about why the implementation of an international mechanism to combat these issues has never been more important.
- 📣 At the *Seventy-Fourth Regular Session of OAS/CICAD* on December 12, Director for Drug Policy and the Andes, John Walsh, delivered impactful remarks on the [challenges](#)



 **WOLA is officially on Threads!**
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 On December 3-7, [Stephanie Brewer](#) and [Ana Lucia Verduzco](#) visited Nopales, Mexico and borderlands in Arizona, U.S. to gain a better understanding of how current U.S. migration policies are impacting migrants at the border.

WEEKLY 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



Carolina Jiménez Sandoval,
WOLA President

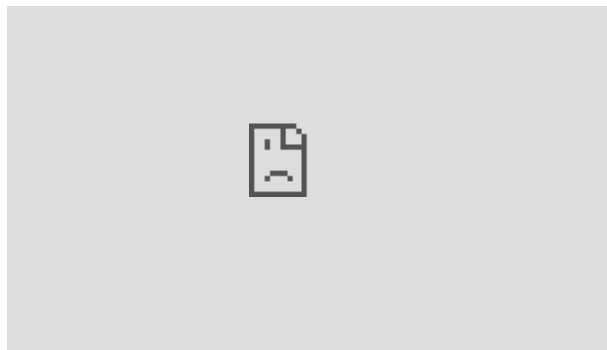
– *PBS News Hour*, [What to know about Venezuela and Guyana's territory dispute](#)



"Adam Isacson of the Washington Office on Latin America, a human rights group, points out that countries along migrants' path to the United States have few choices."

Adam Isacson,
Director for Defense Oversight

– *The Washington Post*, [An immigration solution south of the border](#)



Carolina Jiménez Sandoval,
WOLA President

– *Voz de América*, [Foro: Derechos Humanos: logros y desafíos](#) (Interview is in Spanish)

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