

Rights Action
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1462 Days of Resistance: 4-Year Anniversary of June 28, 2009 Military Coup in Honduras

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1462 DAYS OF RESISTANCE: The 4-Year Anniversary of the June 28, 2009 Military Coup in Honduras



Today, June 28, 2013, and as always, the motorcycles lead the march, blocking off the streets of Tegucigalpa for the thousands of people that follow behind. The count of 'days in resistance' continues on the fourth anniversary of the coup. June 28, 2013. (All photos @ Karen Spring)

Four years ago to date, the National Front of Popular Resistance (FNRP) was born bringing together campesino movements, women's organizations, artists, the LGBTI community, lawyers and indigenous organizations.

On June 27th and June 28th, the activities in Tegucigalpa included a vigil in memory of the martyrs of the 'Resistance' followed by an FNRP-convoked march on June 28 the following morning.

Today, the Honduran resistance movement is remembering the martyrs, the chants, the 'Resistance' music, the months of protests and the birth of the largest, most unified social movement in the history of Honduras.



Singing songs of resistance in front of the American Embassy during a vigil in memory of the martyrs of the 'Resistance'. June 27, 2013.



Gathered at the traditional final destination of the march and around the statue of Honduran hero, Francisco Morazán, the FNRP listens to speeches of key leaders including FNRP Coordinator, Juan Barahona and President Zelaya.



Overthrown President Manuel Zelaya addressing the crowd.

THE UNITED STATES & CANADA

June 28th is a day that North Americans should remember and reflect on as well. Our Embassies, economic policies, lifestyles, and ignorance have maintained the Honduran post-coup regime infected by neoliberal steroids, in power.

Canada and the US both supported the coup in 2009 and received many benefits; a new mining law written with the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); a failed police reform planned and financed by the US government; a Free Trade Agreement with Canada; 41 rivers privatized in preparation for hydroelectric dams financed by International financial institutions with money from North American retirement funds; and Intelligence and terrorism laws born-in-Columbia, designed-in-the-U.S.A., are all but a few reforms pushed through the Honduran Congress in just four years.



Sign reads 'I am Obama, coup supporter'



Sign on left reads “Not even one foot of Yankee Marines in Honduras” and Sign on right reads “Yankees leave Latin America, the Middle East, Iraq and Palestine”



Photos of the 'Resistance' martyrs were hung outside of the office of the leading Honduran human rights organization, the Committee of the Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared (COFADEH) as the FNRP march passed in front of their office.

Honduran police and military were also around the vicinity of the march mostly protecting private and transnational businesses including Burger King and coup-supporter Cardinal Rodriguez's cathedral in the centre of Tegucigalpa amongst many others.



NOVEMBER 2013 ELECTIONS

The 'Resistance' celebrates today in anticipation of another struggle to come particularly as politically motivated repression and assassinations continue. In less than five months on November 24, Hondurans will head to the polls to vote in the 2013 General Elections. Amongst their choices is the political arm of the FNRP, headed by the Presidential candidate of the Liberty and Refoundation (LIBRE) party, Xiomara Castro De Zelaya, President Zelaya's wife.

Although a young political party, Xiomara is leading in the polls and many are optimistic that LIBRE can achieve the main aspiration of the FNRP - a National Constituent Assembly.



WHAT TO DO

SAY NO TO “BUSINESS AS USUAL”: As distressful as the on-going situation of repression in Honduras, it is not surprising, it is not an anomaly. The US and Canadian governments, and North American resource extraction companies maintain full and profitable economic and military relations with Honduras’ post-military coup (2009) regime, turning a blind eye to repression, violence and impunity in Honduras, and to the legacy of Goldcorp’s mine there.

Please send copies of this information, and your own letters, to your own elected politicians (MPs, Congresspersons, Senators) and other government officials, and to your own media, asking why our governments actually do nothing about the on-going impunity, repression and violence, while promoting and benefiting from economic and military relations with the Guatemalan regime and economic elites.

TO MAKE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS (in Canada and the U.S.) to support the work and struggle of the pro-democracy movement in Honduras , make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

UNITED STATES: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887

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