Rights Action December 18, 2017 ******

U.S. & Canada must support O.A.S. (Organization of American States) call for new elections

Day #23: 25 people killed (and counting) Photo-essay by Grahame Russell, Rights Action

• <u>http://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/oas-organization-of-america-states-calls-for-new-elections-in-honduras-us-and-canadian-governments-must-</u>support-oas-call-for-new-elections

OAS (Organization of America States) calls for NEW ELECTIONS in Honduras



#OEAenHonduras

bit.ly/2kb3QY0

The Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro, making formal call for new elections in Honduras.

New York Times

"Honduran President Declared Winner, but O.A.S. Calls for New Election" Elizabeth Malkin, December 17, 2017 https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/17/world/americas/honduran-presidentialelection.html?_r=0

"The vote was so riddled with irregularities that it was impossible to declare a winner."

The Guardian "Call for fresh Honduras election after president Juan Orlando Hernández wins" Sarah Kinosian, December 18, 2017 <u>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/18/honduras-election-president-juan-orlando-hernandez-declared-winner-amid-unrest</u>

"The Organization of American States has called for fresh elections in Honduras. Luis Almagro – the secretary general of the OAS, a regional forum that sent an election observer mission to monitor the Honduran poll – said the process was plagued by irregularities, had "very low technical quality" and lacked integrity."



11:22 AM · 18 dic. 17

Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro, clarifying that the European Union did NOT ratify the fraudulent, repressive elections, after a media disinformation campaign stating otherwise.



Luis Almagro @Almagro_... · 19m En respuesta a @Almagro_OEA2015 También le presenté a @SalvadorAlianza las conclusiones del Informe de Misión Electoral #OEAenHonduras; y ratifiqué la necesidad de un Ilamado a nuevas elecciones, al diálogo, la reconciliación y a la no violencia #EleccionesHonduras2017



...

Secretary General of the OAS, Luis Almagro, meeting with (rightful President Elect) Salvador Nasralla of the Opposition Alliance party, to share results of OAS election conclusions, to ratify call for new elections.

U.S. & Canadian-backed regime cracks down harder on people: 25 killed



Sepelio de Bryan Noé Mejía Gonzales, asesinado en Río Blanco, San Pedro Sula. ¡Sangre de mártires! **#FueraJOH**



Burial: Bryan Noe Mejjia Gonzales, killed by military and police in Rio Blanco, San Pedro Sula.



The country is paralyzed with pro-democracy, anti-electoral fraud protesters. (See Rights Action updated December 16, 2017: <u>http://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/the-only-way-to-defend-democracy-in-honduras</u>)



Trasciende masiva renuncia de agentes y oficiales de la Policía Nacional ► bit.ly/2kedyZG



18/12/17 1:23 p.m.

Massive numbers of police officers and police men and women are resigning from corrupt, repressive regime.

What to do

U.S. and Canadian governments –staunch allies and supporters of Honduran regime since 2009 military coup- must publicly support OAS call for internationally organized and monitored elections.

Please do not write your letters of protest to the Honduran government. Through our denunciations and activism, we have to hold the "international community" – particularly the U.S. and Canada– accountable for their complicity with Honduras' now endemic repression, fraud, corruption and impunity. If political and legal accountability is not brought to bear on the military, economic and political backers of the Honduran regime, the repression, corruption and impunity – and suffering of the Honduran people - will not stop.

U.S.: Call the Capital Switchboard to get contact information for your Senators and Representatives: (202) 224-3121. Get their phone numbers and email addresses. Send them copies of this and other information. Insist that they agree to the demands below. Share your efforts with the media, family, friends and networks.

Canada: Call on Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland to take a strong stand concerning electoral fraud, repression and violence in Honduras. Read and sign and share: <u>http://www.codev.org/2017/12/urgent-action-honduras/</u>

Find your MP contact information by entering your postal code here: <u>http://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members</u>. Get their phone numbers and email addresses. Send them copies of this and other information. Insist that they agree to the demands below. Share your efforts with the media, family, friends and networks.

Demands - short term

U.S. and Canadian governments and elected politicians must:

- support the OAS call for new elections;
- condemn the multiple acts of electoral fraud carried out by government of Juan Orlando Hernandez;
- condemn the repression against anti-electoral fraud protesters and other citizens;

- state that the regime will be held accountable for all electoral fraud and repression taking place;
- suspend all economic, military and police related relations with the corrupt government in power;

Demands - medium and longer term

There must be legislative inquiries in the U.S. and Canada into the causes of Honduras' endemic repression and exploitation, corruption and impunity, with specific focus on the role played by the U.S. and Canadian governments:

- supporting the 2009 military coup;
- supporting and legitimizing fraudulent and violent elections in 2009, 2013 and 2017 (though the 2017 elections remain unresolved);
- supporting the expansion of corporate interests in Honduras (sectors of mining, garment "sweatshop" industry, bananas, hydro-electric dams, tourism, etc.), while turning a blind eye to and – in effect – benefitting from repression, fraud, corruption and impunity.

More information / Get involved

- Rights Action: <u>info@rightsaction.org</u>, <u>www.rightsaction.org</u>, <u>www.facebook.com/RightsAction.org</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/RightsAction</u>
- Honduras Solidarity Network: <u>http://www.hondurassolidarity.org/</u>, <u>https://www.facebook.com/HondurasSolidarityNetwork</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/hondurassol</u>
- Witness for Peace: <u>www.witnessforpeace.org</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/WitnessforPeace</u>,
- School of Americas Watch: <u>www.soaw.org</u>, <u>https://twitter.com/SOAWatch</u>
- La Voz de los de Abajo: <u>https://www.facebook.com/lavozchicago/</u>, @lavozchicago

Emergency relief funds - Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

• **Matching donor**: Two anonymous donors will match donations, up to a total of \$35,000, made by December 31, 2017.

Rights Action is sending relief funds to our long-term partner groups in Honduras -COPINH and OFRANEH- and other community groups for their community development, environmental and human rights defense work, and their emergency work in response to electoral fraud and repression. Make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

• U.S.: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887

• Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8 Credit-Card Donations: <u>http://rightsaction.org/donate/</u> Donations of stock? Write to: <u>info@rightsaction.org</u>

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