

Guatemala's new president is more of the same, experts say

January 20, 2020, by [Sandra Cuffe](#)

<https://www.pri.org/stories/2020-01-20/guatemalas-new-president-more-same-experts-say>



Guatemala's President Alejandro Giammattei and Defense Minister Juan Carlos Aleman take part in ceremony with armed forces to recognize Giammattei as Commander-in-Chief, in Guatemala City, Jan. 15, 2020.

(Credit: Luis Echeverria/Reuters)

Guatemalan military-backed, 'open-for-global-business' President Giammattei assumes power

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/guatemalan-military-backed-open-for-global-business-president-giammattei-assumes-power>

As the U.S., Canada, Spain, World Bank and global corporations and investors vow to continue with full military, political and economic relations, the forced migrancy of tens of thousands of people into exile, every year, is to sure to continue.

"Guatemala is the top country of origin for migrants and asylum-seekers fleeing violence and poverty who are apprehended at the US southern border."

Why do 10s of thousands of Hondurans & Guatemalans flee year after year?

The U.S. and Canadian governments, the World Bank and global businesses and investors (hydro-electric dams, mining, African palm, sugar cane and fruit production, garment “sweatshop” factors, tourism, etc.) maintain profitable relations with anti-democratic, corrupt, repressive governments in Honduras and Guatemala, participating in or benefitting from exploitation and repression, environmental harms and human rights violations, corruption and impunity.

The U.S., Canada and “international community” help keep in place the very regimes that force Hondurans and Guatemalans to flee their countries, every year, decade after decade. There is no political or legal oversight or accountability in the U.S. and Canada for our complicity in Guatemala and Honduras’ nightmare.

Shithole countries: U.S., Canada & international community helping produce forced migrancy from Honduras & Guatemala

By Grahame Russell, Rights Action, October 2019,

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/shithole-countries>

*** / ***

Rights Action (U.S. & Canada)

Since 1995, Rights Action funds human rights, environment and territory defense struggles and projects in Guatemala and Honduras; funds victims of repression and human rights violations, health harms and natural disasters; works to hold accountable the U.S. and Canadian governments, multi-national companies, investors and banks (World Bank, etc.) that help cause and profit from repression and human rights violations, environmental harms and forced evictions, corruption and impunity in Honduras and Guatemala.

Get Informed / Get Involved

- Speakers: Invite us to give presentations about these inter-connected issues and struggles
- Delegations: Join human rights educational trips to Guatemala and Honduras

- Daily news: www.democracynow.org; www.theintercept.com;
www.telesurtv.net/english; www.therealnews.com;
www.theguardian.com/us-news; www.rabble.ca;

Act – Stir up the pot – Chip away

Keep sending copies of Rights Action information (and that of other solidarity groups/ NGOs) to family, friends and networks, politicians and media – always asking the question as to why our governments, companies and investment firms benefit from and turn a blind eye to poverty, repression and violence, environmental and health harms that caused the forced migrancy / refugee crisis in Guatemala and Honduras.

- U.S. Senate: <https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact>
- U.S. House: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>
- Canadian Parliament: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members>

Other solidarity/ NGO groups in U.S. and Canada

- Honduras Solidarity Network: www.hondurassolidarity.org;
- Witness for Peace Solidarity Collective: www.solidaritycollective.org;
- School of Americas Watch: www.soaw.org;
- Common Frontiers Canada: www.commonfrontiers.ca;
- Breaking the Silence: www.breakingthesilenceblog.com;
- NISGUA (Network in Solidarity with People of Guatemala): www.nisgua.org;
- Mining Watch Canada: www.miningwatch.ca;
- CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with People of El Salvador): www.cispes.org;
- Alliance for Global Justice: www.afgj.org;
- CODEPINK: www.codepink.org;
- GHRC (Guatemalan Human Rights Commission): www.ghrc-usa.org;
- Mining Injustice Solidarity Network: <https://mininginjustice.org>;
- Mining Justice Alliance: <https://miningjusticealliance.wordpress.com>;
- Simcoe County Honduras Rights Monitor: <https://simcoecountyhondurasrightsmonitor.wordpress.com>;

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

To support our land, human rights and environmental defender partner groups in Honduras and Guatemala, make check 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: <http://rightsaction.org/donate/>

Donations of stock? Write to: info@rightsaction.org

Please share this information widely

More information: info@rightsaction.org, www.rightsaction.org

Subscribe to e-Newsletter: www.rightsaction.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RightsAction.org

Twitter: @RightsAction

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rightsaction/>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/rightsaction>