Summary of Stakeholders’ submissions on Honduras*


I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 28 stakeholders’ submissions to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.¹

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies²

2. Four submissions recommended that Honduras ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.¹ Joint Submission 17 (JS17) recommended that Honduras ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.²

3. The Geneva International Centre for Justice (GICJ) recommended that Honduras accept the individual complaint procedures under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.³

4. Joint Submission 10 (JS10) recommended that Honduras sign the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.⁴

5. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) recommended that Honduras ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.⁵ Two

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.
submissions recommended that Honduras ratify the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).8

6. GICJ welcomed the establishment in Honduras of an office of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). It also noted that Honduras had received visits by several special procedures mandate holders and that, in 2017, it had submitted a midterm report to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).9 Joint Submission 4 (JS4) recommended that Honduras submit a midterm evaluation report on the implementation of the recommendations received during the present universal periodic review.10

7. GICJ noted positively the establishment in 2016 of the Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH) of the Organization of American States and recommended to extend its mandate beyond 2020.11

B. National human rights framework12

8. JS10 acknowledged that there had been certain advances in the implementation of the recommendations received by Honduras during its second universal periodic review, including the creation of the Ministry of Social Development and Inclusion and the entry into operation of the Ministry of Human Rights.13

9. GICJ recommended that Honduras set out more specific, clear and objective criteria for the selection of the National Human Rights Commissioner (CONADEH), encourage indigenous and female candidates, and ensure a broader participation of civil society in the selection process.14

10. Joint submission 12 (JS12) recommended that Honduras ensure that the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CONAPREV) had sufficient resources and that its member were chosen by transparent and merit based selection criteria.15

11. JS4 recommended that Honduras systematically consult with civil society on the implementation of recommendations received under the universal periodic review and incorporate the results of that process into public policies for the promotion and defence of human rights.16

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

I. Cross-cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination17

12. Joint Submission 15 (JS15) noted that the recently adopted criminal legislation was still not compatible with international human rights standards on discrimination and that it should include definitions of direct and indirect discrimination besides prohibiting discrimination in both the public and private spheres.18 It recommended that Honduras develop and adopt legislation to combat discrimination against vulnerable groups.19 Red Lésbica Cattrachas (Cattrachas) recommended that a definition of hate crime should be expressly included in criminal legislation.20

13. Joint Submission 9 (JS9) highlighted that members of indigenous and Afro-Honduran communities and persons with disabilities continued to suffer discrimination and that children living in neighbourhoods where criminal gangs (maras) were particularly active were stigmatized and mistreated by law enforcement officers.21

14. JS9 also noted that machismo and discrimination against women remained prevalent in Honduras and that, in spite of the progress made, there was still a lack of adequate protection policies. It recommended that Honduras ensure the full implementation of the second plan for gender equality and equity, for the period 2010–2022, and that it foster a culture of non-discrimination against women.22
15. Three submissions noted that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people faced persistent discrimination and that, rather than safeguarding the rights of that community, the State appeared to be doing just the opposite. Cattrachas noted that the media had had a prominent role in heightening the climate of hatred towards persons of diverse sex and gender and that religious fundamentalists encouraged discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual and intersex persons.

16. Joint Submission 16 (JS16) highlighted that a gender identity law allowing transgender and transsexual persons to obtain identity documents that accurately reflected their gender identity had not yet been adopted.

Development, the environment, and business and human rights

17. Several submissions indicated that over the previous decade Honduras had granted a considerable number of concessions for mining, electricity, agro-industrial and tourism projects and noted that this development model, which was based on unrestricted extraction of natural resources without prior consultation with the communities affected, was incompatible with sustainable land use and respect for human rights and had led to many conflicts between residents, the State and private companies.

18. Peace Brigades International Honduras Project (PBI) recommended that Honduras establish accessible, transparent and effective consultation and complaint mechanisms for communities affected by mining and commercial projects. Joint Submission 14 (JS14) recommended that Honduras conduct an audit under international observation to verify the legality and legitimacy of the various mining projects.

19. JS10 recommended that Honduras adopt a national plan of action to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in which all stakeholders, and in particular organizations of campesino, indigenous and Afrodescendant persons, participate as widely as possible.

Human rights and counter-terrorism

20. PBI expressed serious concern about the definition of the offence of association for purposes of engaging in terrorism contained in the new Criminal Code, which, owing to the ambiguous manner in which it was phrased, could permit the criminalization of other forms of conduct and could be used against rights defenders.

2. Civil and political rights

Right to life, liberty and security of person

21. Several submissions reported serious human rights violations in the context of the Government’s response to the protests that took place in the wake of the 2017 elections, including killings, arrests, acts of torture and ill-treatment, and the filing of criminal charges. JS12 also noted reports of violent repression in the context of the 2019 mass demonstrations against health and education reforms proposed by the government, resulting in several deaths.

22. Several submissions expressed concern about the ongoing militarization of the public security system, as reflected in the creation of the Public Security Council and the Public Order Military Police. Although initially established as a temporary measure, the latter has become a permanent structure with a steadily growing personnel. PBI recommended that Honduras refrain from deploying the armed forces in citizen security operations, commit to a time frame for phasing out the Public Order Military Police and improve the human rights training provided to the security forces.

23. JS12 noted that torture and other ill-treatment continued to be used by the security forces and highlighted that the vast majority of such cases remained in impunity. It also noted that the definition of torture in the new Criminal Code did not meet the requirements of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, since it did not include as active subjects individuals acting at the instigation...
or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person in the exercise of public functions.  

24. Joint Submission 13 (JS13) highlighted that the United Nations Working Group on mercenaries had indicated that there were more than 74,000 security guards in Honduras, over 60,000 of which were not registered, and that the use of private security guards was poorly regulated.  

25. Three submissions were concerned about the situation of the penitentiary system, including the severe and widespread overcrowding, lack of access to quality healthcare and sanitation, and the high levels of prison violence. JS12 stated that the percentage of pre-trial detainees exceeded that of those condemned, and that the Criminal Procedure Code continued to establish 21 crimes for which pre-trial detention was mandatory. GICJ recommended speeding up the adoption of the proposal tabled by the National Penitentiary Institute regarding the release of about 685 persons on humanitarian ground, most notably persons affected by mental or other disability.  

26. JS12 highlighted the increasing militarization in the management of prisons and the use of military facilities to hold persons deprived of liberty. GICJ acknowledged the construction and refurbishment of certain prison facilities, but expressed concern over newly opened detention centres, such as the Centro de Ilama Santa Barbara and the Centro Penal de Moroceli, which were ruled by military agents. Joint Submission 3 (JS3) recommended that Honduras allow unrestricted access to prisons for the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CONAPREV) and civil society organizations.  

27. Several submissions highlighted the persistence of widespread violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. JS16 reported that, according to data published by the Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH), more than 280 persons of diverse sexual orientation had lost their lives in violent circumstances in the last decade and that over 90 per cent of those crimes had gone unpunished. Two submissions indicated that the Act on Policing and Harmonious Social Relations continued to be used to justify the arbitrary detention of transgender persons.  

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law  

28. Joint Submission 8 (JS8) reported that the crisis precipitated by the 2009 coup d’état had worsened in recent years, exposing institutional weaknesses, a lack of separation between powers and a backdrop of persistent corruption and impunity. GICJ urged Honduras to amend the selection and appointment procedures of the Supreme Court judges, the Attorney General and his/her Deputy and implement all the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers.  

29. GICJ was also alarmed by the high levels of impunity, in particular for crimes perpetrated against women and human rights defenders. It noted that political trials, delays in the administration of justice, and impunity for acts of violence, killings and human rights violations were giving rise to profound dissatisfaction among the population.  

30. JS3 reported that the creation of the Office of the Special Prosecutor for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Professionals and Justice Officials had failed to provide an institutional response to the violence that those groups faced. Joint Submission 11 (JS11) highlighted the violence and intimidation to which lawyers were exposed, in particular those working on cases directly affecting the interests of the army, security forces, landowners and private companies.  

31. Various communications referred to the emblematic case of the murder of the indigenous and environmental rights campaigner, Berta Caceres. JS4 noted that, because of her high profile, greater progress had been made in the investigation of her case than in most others, but stressed that the investigation had still been plagued by irregularities. JS11 recommended that Honduras continue with its inquiries into the alleged intellectual authors of this crime.  

32. The Center for Reproductive Rights (CPR) reported that justice officials were often unaware of the languages and cultures of the indigenous peoples and that the Office of the
Special Prosecutor for Ethnic Groups and Cultural heritage lacked financial and human resources to carry out its functions effectively.\textsuperscript{57}

\textit{Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life}\textsuperscript{58}

33. Several submissions raised concerns about provisions in the new Criminal Code that undermined freedom of expression and association and criminalized participation in social protests.\textsuperscript{59}

34. A number of submissions drew attention to the sizeable number of incidents in which human rights defenders, including journalists, media professionals, indigenous rights defenders, environmental defenders, student leaders and trade union activists, had been killed, threatened, attacked or subjected to acts of violence.\textsuperscript{60} Three submissions stated that the especially vulnerable situation of female human rights defenders was a particular concern.\textsuperscript{61}

35. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) drew attention to the persistently high rates of violence against journalists and the fact that most of these crimes went unpunished.\textsuperscript{62} JS4 noted that journalists who reported on protests, organized crime, corruption, mining projects and human rights abuses were particularly vulnerable.\textsuperscript{63}

36. Four submissions provided information on the adoption of the Act on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Professionals and Justice Officials, in 2015, and the creation of the National Protection System.\textsuperscript{64} JS3 expressed the view that the effectiveness of the National Protection System had been diminished by the failure to comply with regulations and civil society’s limited involvement in decision-making.\textsuperscript{65} PBI noted that the authorities were still not always fully informed about the system, especially in rural areas.\textsuperscript{66} Three submissions recommended that Honduras provide the National Protection System with the necessary funding and operational capacity.\textsuperscript{57}

37. JS11 noted that the Act on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Media Professionals and Justice Officials envisaged physical protection measures only and did not address the structural reasons that placed these persons at risk. It thought it necessary that Honduras adopt an “integral protection policy”, as defined by IACHR.\textsuperscript{67}

38. Two submissions recommended that Honduras put a stop to campaigns that sought to smear and stigmatize human rights defenders and that it ran campaigns to raise awareness of their work, and particularly the work of female human rights defenders.\textsuperscript{68}

39. PBI drew attention to the systematic use of criminal legislation to criminalize, curtail and undermine the work of human rights defenders.\textsuperscript{70} Two submissions recommended that Honduras put a stop to such practices.\textsuperscript{71}

40. Two submissions stated that article 72 of the Honduran Constitution prohibited censorship, but that article 75 stipulated an exception “to protect the ethical and cultural values of society”.\textsuperscript{72} The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) noted that the Criminal Code currently in force criminalized calumny, insult and defamation and recommended that Honduras refrain from using criminal defamation lawsuits against reporters and ensure that “crimes against honor” were eliminated from the new Criminal Code.\textsuperscript{73}

41. Three submissions highlighted that the Bill on Cybersecurity and Protection Measures against Acts of Hate and Discrimination on the Internet and Social Networks threatened freedom of expression and recommended that the Congress reject it.\textsuperscript{74}

42. JS10 recommended that Honduras repeal the Act on the Classification of Public Documents relating to Security and National Defence, which restricted public access to information on private, State-backed projects that affected people’s lives.\textsuperscript{75}

43. Cultural Survival (CS) welcomed the regulations on community outreach media services that allowed organizations of indigenous communities and persons of African descent to use radio and television channels for cultural and educational purposes and to encourage community participation. However, it found it regrettable that more than 12 radio stations created by four indigenous groups had yet to be granted a licence.\textsuperscript{76}
Prohibition of all forms of slavery

44. JS9 welcomed the efforts that Honduras had made to combat human trafficking by implementing the Trafficking in Persons Act and making investigations more thorough. The European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ) noted that Honduras had increased resources and funding to the Inter-Institutional Commission to Combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons. However, both submissions observed the persistence of a high number of cases of human trafficking.

45. JS9 recommended that Honduras take steps to prevent sexual exploitation and human trafficking using public information campaigns in the media and on social networks and that it enhance detection, investigation and follow-up mechanisms with a view to bringing those responsible to justice.

Right to privacy and family life

46. Three submissions noted that equal marriage was prohibited in Honduras and same-sex couples were denied the right to adopt.

47. Joint submission 1 (JS1) recommended that Honduras cease imports of invasive surveillance technology and abolish all security service practices related to the control of communications and the internet.

3. Economic, social and cultural rights

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

48. JS3 highlighted that, since the coup d’état in 2009, Honduras had pursued policies that tended to heighten job insecurity and that gender inequality remained an issue in the formal employment sector. It recommended that Honduras repeal the Hourly Employment Act and implement public policies with a gender perspective in order to improve access to formal employment.

49. Joint Submission 5 (JS5) welcomed the adoption of the Support for Micro and Small Enterprises Act but indicated that the lack of citizen security was a major obstacle to the development of micro-businesses. Two submissions highlighted that widespread violence and extortion had had a serious impact on sectors such as public transport and small business.

50. Joint Submission 7 (JS7) noted that the lack of legislation regulating sex work made sex workers more vulnerable to discrimination and ill-treatment and recommended that Honduras adopt the bill on autonomous sex work. It also recommended adoption of the bill on paid domestic work, which would mean that paid domestic work was recognized as employment and homes were recognized as places of work, and of the draft public policy on the prevention of damage to the health of women working in the maquila industry.

51. JS4 recommended that Honduras amend articles 495, 537, 555, 558 and 563 of the Labour Code in order to remove all unjustified restrictions on freedom of association, trade union rights, collective bargaining and the right to strike.

52. JS2 noted that applicants for jobs in many private companies and within the armed forces were required to undergo HIV screening.

Right to social security

53. JS15 indicated that, in 2019, the National Congress had amended the Framework Act on the Social Protection System so that pension and retirement funds could be used to finance health services, thereby jeopardizing the rights of those for whom the system had been created.

Right to an adequate standard of living

54. JS3 noted that the average poverty rate in Honduras over the past five years had been 68.12 per cent and that inequality persisted. It reported that the State’s attempts to address those issues through welfare-based programmes had been ineffective. Two
submissions recommended that Honduras implement integrated public policies to reduce poverty, extreme poverty and inequality. 95

55. Joint Submission 5 (JS5) reported that water was generally unsafe to drink and was not accessible to most people in Honduras, and that the country faced serious supply problems owing to bad practices in water storage and use and the impact of climate change. 96

56. JS10 noted that the economic model that had taken root in Honduras treated land as an object to be exploited and monopolized by large corporations, had aggravated historical inequalities in access to land and had generated increasing social discord. It stated that the promotion of agricultural exports had resulted in unrelenting use of toxic agrochemicals and had discouraged the production of basic grains (corn, beans and rice), and that this had had a negative impact on food security and sovereignty. 97

57. JS10 also noted that the State’s response to the social discord had been repressive, and had involved taking criminal action against persons defending the rights of the campesino, indigenous and Afrodescendant communities. It drew attention to several specific conflicts, including the conflict in Bajo Aguán. It recommended that Honduras cease criminalizing the campesinos’ struggle, adopt a protocol on forced evictions in rural areas that is in line with international human rights standards, and adopt the bill on comprehensive agrarian reform with a gender perspective. 98

58. JS3 recommended that Honduras repeal Ministerial Agreement No. 1402-2018, under which technical environmental research had been classified as confidential information, and implement the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas. 99

Right to health

59. JS5 highlighted the insufficient availability of medication and beds in public hospitals, which caused long waiting lists. 100 Joint Submission 17 (JS17) recommended that Honduras prioritize investment in the national health system in order to guarantee the availability of free, universal public health care. 101

60. GICJ noted that, in 2019, more than 61,000 people in Honduras had been infected with dengue fever and that haemorrhagic dengue had claimed the lives of 106 persons. It recommended that Honduras reinforce preventive measures and seek technical assistance from the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). 102

61. JS15 recommended that Honduras adopt policies on sexual and reproductive rights that are not influenced by religious doctrines, that it implement the National Policy on Sexual and Reproductive Health that was approved in 2016, and that it allocate sufficient budgetary resources to this policy. 103

62. Four communications noted that Honduras maintained an absolute criminalization of abortion and a ban on emergency contraceptives. They recommended that Honduras decriminalize abortion and legalize it in cases of rape, incest, unviability of the foetus or risk to the life or health of the mother, and repeal the ban on emergency contraceptives. 104 CPR highlighted that the criminalization of abortion and the ban on emergency contraceptives disproportionately affected victims of sexual abuse, adolescent girls, and poor women. 105

63. JS2 noted that the State’s HIV prevention policies were ineffective and that persons infected by HIV faced discrimination. It recommended that Honduras repeal all legislation that undermined the rights of persons infected by HIV and re-establish the national HIV prevention programme as a means to facilitate coordination between the State and civil society. 106

Right to education

64. JS9 reported that a million children and teenagers between the ages of 3 and 17 either were outside the education system or did not regularly attend school, including a disproportionate number of indigenous children, children of African descent and children
with disabilities. It added that special attention needed to be given to the process of integrating returning migrant children and children displaced by violence into the education system.\textsuperscript{109}

65. JS8 noted that the proportion of the State budget allocated to education had decreased between 2010 and 2019.\textsuperscript{110} JS9 recommended that Honduras ensure that all children had access to education and that it guarantee the quality of education by allocating greater budgetary resources to teacher training and infrastructure.\textsuperscript{111}

66. JS15 noted that, despite various attempts to address the situation, children and teenagers in Honduras still did not have access to comprehensive sex education owing to a lack of interest and political will on the part of the authorities and the considerable influence of the different churches in decision-making forums including educational reform committees.\textsuperscript{112}

67. JS17 recommended that Honduras discontinue the Guardians of the Nation programme and ensure that children and teenagers did not take part in military activities.\textsuperscript{113}

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women\textsuperscript{114}

68. JS3 drew attention to the structural violence suffered by women in Honduras, which was sustained by a culture of tolerance and high levels of impunity.\textsuperscript{115} Several submissions noted the sizeable number of cases of domestic and sexual violence and highlighted the fact that Honduras had one of the highest rates of violent deaths of women and femicide in the world.\textsuperscript{116}

69. IACHR warned that, although the country’s homicide rate had fallen, the frequency of gender-related killings of women had not fallen to the same extent as that of other homicides. It was especially concerned about the particular brutality towards women evident in these killings.\textsuperscript{117}

70. Joint Submission 7 (JS7) reported that, although a special team had been created in 2016 to investigate violent deaths of women and femicides, its budget was not sufficient. It noted that there were serious procedural flaws in the manner in which femicides were investigated and prosecuted, owing to a lack of human resources, limitations on their ability to travel to rural areas, a lack of technical supplies and equipment, and inadequate inter-institutional coordination.\textsuperscript{118}

71. JS15 recommended that the new Criminal Code establish penalties for offences of sexual violence against women that are commensurate with the grave nature of these crimes.\textsuperscript{119} Three submissions recommended that Honduras approve and implement the Protocol of Integral Attention for Victims and/or Survivors of Sexual Violence.\textsuperscript{120} JS7 recommended that Honduras adopt the draft comprehensive law on violence against women and develop related public policies to combat the structural causes of violence against women.\textsuperscript{121}

Children\textsuperscript{122}

72. JS9 noted that many children are still not registered and recommended that Honduras extend the reach of campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of registering children among parents, predominantly in rural areas, and that it invest in mobile units to access the most remote locations.\textsuperscript{123}

73. JS17 noted that the institutions tasked with protecting the rights of children and young people had persistent weaknesses and were insufficiently coordinated. It recommended that Honduras raise the status of the Directorate for Children, Adolescents and the Family and the National Institute for Youth to that of State secretariat, that it improve inter-institutional coordination and that it continue its efforts to implement a comprehensive system of safeguards for the rights of children and adolescents.\textsuperscript{124}

74. JS3 recommended that Honduras prioritize public investment in projects for children and adolescents.\textsuperscript{125}
75. Two submissions highlighted that minors were particularly vulnerable to the widespread violence that characterized the country, being exposed to threats, killings, acts of torture and sexual violence and recruitment into armed groups. JS9 expressed concern about the extreme vulnerability of children living in street situations to so-called “social cleansing” operations. JS7 recommended that Honduras allocate a budget to the National Policy on the Prevention of Violence against Children and Young People and proceed with its implementation.

76. JS9 reported that most children between the ages of 5 and 17 lived in rural areas and that 16.4 per cent of them worked. It recommended that Honduras establish policies and mechanisms to prevent and eradicate child labour, including support programmes for low-income families, campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of keeping children in school and prevention projects run in partnership with the private sector.

77. JS17 noted that progress in implementing the special justice system for juvenile offenders had stalled. It acknowledged that efforts had been made to improve conditions in centres for juvenile offenders following the creation of the National Institute for Juvenile Offenders but noted that conditions remained precarious and that prevention, rehabilitation and social reintegration strategies had not been implemented.

Minorities and indigenous peoples

78. CS noted that the preliminary bill on free, prior and informed consent that had been submitted to the National Congress was not compatible with international standards and did not reflect the contributions of indigenous organizations and organizations of persons of African descent. Several submissions recommended that Honduras postpone adoption of the bill and review the drafting process with a view to ensuring the active participation of all indigenous peoples and their organizations.

79. JS13 pointed out that mining and energy projects launched in indigenous peoples’ territories and lands without their prior consent had given rise to social and environmental conflicts in Honduras. JS14 highlighted that indigenous leaders linked to acts of resistance and the defence of their natural resources faced violence, killings and criminal prosecution, while the crimes committed against them went unpunished.

80. JS10 recommended that Honduras guarantee the right to prior consultation enjoyed by campesino, indigenous and Afrodescendant communities in the context of mining projects and that it comply with the ruling handed down by the Supreme Court of Justice in 2017 in the constitutional challenge brought against the law on mining.

Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons

81. JS6 noted that the main causes of forced displacement were threats, killings, extortion, forced recruitment into criminal organizations, sexual and domestic violence and land dispossession for the development of mining, energy, tourism and agro-industrial projects, and that indigenous communities, women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, children and adolescents were the population segments most likely to be adversely affected.

82. JS8 noted that Honduras had acknowledged that forced displacement was a problem needing to be addressed at the national level with the creation of the Inter-Institutional Commission for the Protection of Persons Displaced by Violence in 2013 and the subsequent establishment of the Directorate General for the Care and Protection of Internally Displaced Persons. However, it emphasized that the latter body had not been allocated sufficient budgetary or human resources. It recommended adopting, as a matter of urgency, the bill on the prevention of forced displacements and the care and protection of forcibly displaced persons that had been submitted to the National Congress in 2019.

83. Three submissions noted that the prevailing model of exclusive development and the climate of violence and discrimination were fuelling mass migration to North America and that, in 2018 and 2019, this had resulted in the formation of migrant caravans. JS8 expressed concern about the criminalization of the caravans and the use of police and military force to prevent migrants from leaving the country. JS3 noted the launch of
campaigns threatening criminal action against the parents of migrant children, and even the possibility of three years’ imprisonment, if they attempted to migrate irregularly.\(^\text{142}\)

84. JS9 recommended that Honduras take measures to strengthen coordination between countries of origin, transit and destination in order to protect migrant children, young people and women and to safeguard their physical, psychological and emotional well-being by offering support programmes and guaranteeing access to basic services.\(^\text{143}\)

85. JS8 noted that, in 2019, organizations of relatives of missing migrants had registered 741 Honduran migrants as having disappeared on the northward migration route. It emphasized that Honduras had not developed an effective mechanism for reporting persons who went missing outside the national territory and that there were no effective search and investigation mechanisms and no centralized register of missing persons.\(^\text{144}\)

86. JS8 also reported that the number of Honduran migrants being detained in and deported from transit and destination countries had increased in recent years and that the consular assistance available to them was insufficient. It recommended that Honduras open more consulates, particularly along the migration route, and that it appoint consuls with expertise on migration issues.\(^\text{145}\)

87. JS6 reported that 75,579 Hondurans had returned to the country in 2018, a year-on-year increase of 56.8 per cent.\(^\text{146}\) JS17 recommended that Honduras provide comprehensive protection for unaccompanied young persons and children returning to the country and that it guarantee their social reintegration.\(^\text{147}\) JS3 recommended that Honduras amend the Act on the Protection of Honduran Migrants and Members of Their Families to include reinsertion measures for deported migrants and protection measures for those at risk.\(^\text{148}\)

88. JS17 recommended that Honduras rescind the migration agreements that gave it the status of a “safe third country” because it could not offer the conditions needed to ensure optimal security for those in need of international protection.\(^\text{149}\)

Notes

1 The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org.

Civil society

**Individual submissions:**

| AHR | The Advocates for Human Rights (United States); |
| Cattrachas | Red Lésbica Cattrachas (Honduras); |
| CPR | The Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc. (Switzerland); |
| CPJ | Committee to Protect Journalists (United States); |
| CS | Cultural Survival (United States of America); |
| ECLJ | The European Center for Law and Justice (France); |
| GICJ | Geneva International Centre for Justice (France); |
| ICAN | International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (Switzerland); |
| PBI | Peace Brigades International Honduras Project (Honduras); |
| Red COIPRODEN | Coordinadora de Instituciones Privadas pro las Niñas, Niños, Adolescentes, Jóvenes y sus Derechos (Honduras). |

**Joint submissions:**

| JS1 | **Joint Submission 1 submitted by:** Access Now (United States of America), ACI Participa (Honduras); |
| JS2 | **Joint Submission 2 submitted by:** Red Lésbica Cattrachas (Honduras), La Fundación Llanto, Valor y Esfuerzo – LLAVES (Honduras); |
| JS3 | **Joint Submission 3 submitted by:** Asociación de Mujeres Intibucales Renovadas – AMIR (Honduras), Asociación de Jueces por la Democracia – AJD (Honduras), Asociación Feminista Trans – AFET (Honduras), Asociación FIAN Honduras (Honduras), Asociación Intermunicipal de Desarrollo y Vigilancia – AIDEVIS (Honduras), Asociación LGBT Arcoíris de Honduras (Honduras), Asociación Nacional de Personas viviendo con SIDA – ASONAPVSIDA |
(Honduras), Asociación para una ciudadanía participativa – ACI-Participa (Honduras), Asociación por la Democracia y los Derechos Humanos – ASOPODEHU (Honduras), Asociación Prevención y Educación en Salud Sexual y SIDA Tela – APREST (Honduras), Caritas – diócesis de San Pedro Sula (Honduras), Centro de Derechos de Mujeres – CDM (Honduras), Centro de Desarrollo Humano – CDH (Honduras), Centro de Educación y Prevención en salud, sexualidad y SIDA – CEPRES (Honduras), Centro de Estudios de la Mujer Honduras – CEM-H (Honduras), Centro de Estudios Para la Democracia CESPAD (Honduras), Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos – CIPRODEH (Honduras), Centro para la Prevención, Tratamiento y Rehabilitación de víctimas de la Tortura y sus familiares – CPTRT (Honduras), Colectivo Diamantes Limeños (Honduras), Colectivo Unidad Color Rosa – CUCR (Honduras), Comité de familiares de detenidos desaparecidos de Honduras – COFADEH (Honduras), Comité de familiares de migrantes desaparecidos del progreso – COFAMIPRO (Honduras), Comité por la libre expresión – C-Libre (Honduras), Coordinación de instituciones privadas por las niñas, niños, adolescentes, jóvenes y sus derechos – COIPRODEN (Honduras), Crisálidas de Villanueva (Honduras), Ecuménicas por el derecho a decidir (Honduras), Equipo de monitoreo independiente de Honduras – EMIH (Honduras), Equipo de reflexión, investigación y comunicación – ERIC-SJ (Honduras), Espacio ACI Familia franciscana – JPIC (Honduras), Federación de Sindicatos de Trabajadores de la Agroindustria – FESTAGRO (Honduras), Foro de mujeres por la vida (Honduras), Foro Nacional de Sida – FOROSIDA (Honduras), Foro nacional para las migraciones – FONAMIH (Honduras), Foro social de la deuda externa y desarrollo de Honduras – FOSDEH (Honduras), Frente amplio del COPENH (Honduras), Asociadas por lo Justo en Honduras – JASS (Honduras), Las hormigas (Honduras), Movimiento Ambientalista Social del Sur por la Vida – MASSVIDA (Honduras), Movimiento Indígena Independiente Lenca de la Paz en Honduras – MILPAH (Honduras), Movimiento ambientalista santabarbarense – MAS (Honduras), Movimiento amplio por la dignidad y la justicia – MADJ (Honduras), Movimiento de mujeres por la paz visitación padilla (Honduras), MUCA y plataforma agraria (Honduras), Observatorio permanente Bajo Aguan (Honduras), Organismo cristiano de desarrollo integral de Honduras – OCDIH (Honduras), Brigadas de Paz Internacional PBI (Honduras), Plataforma internacional contra la impunidad – PI (Honduras), Pastoral de movilidad humana – PMH (Honduras), Red de defensoras de derechos humanos de Honduras (Honduras), Red de participación de organización de sociedad civil Siguatepeque – RPOSC (Honduras), Red de trabajadoras sexuales de Honduras – REDMUDE (Honduras), Unión de empresas y de organización des trabajadores del Campo – UTC (Honduras), Vía campesina (Honduras);

**JS4 Joint Submission 4 submitted by:** Alianza Mundial para la Participación Ciudadana – CIVICUS (South Africa), Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe para la Democracia – REDLAD (Colombia), Asociación de Organismos no Gubernamentales – ASONOG (Honduras);

**JS5 Joint Submission 5 submitted by:** Congregación de Nuestra Señora de la Caridad del Buen Pastor (Switzerland), Misioneras de San Carlos Borromeo – Scalabrinianas (Honduras), Franiscanos Conventuales (Honduras);
Joint Submission 6 submitted by: Cristosal (El Salvador), Asociación Para Una Vida Mejor de Personas Infectadas/Afectadas por el VIH-Sida en Honduras – APUVIMEH (Honduras);

Joint Submission 7 submitted by: Centro de Derechos de la Mujer – CDM (Honduras), Asociadas por lo Justo – JASS (Honduras), Plataforma Right Here Right Now – RHRN (Honduras), Foro de Mujeres por la Vida (Honduras), Red Nacional de Defensoras de Derechos Humanos en Honduras – RNDDH (Honduras), Centro de Estudios de la Mujer – CEMH (Honduras), Centro de Estudios y Acción para el Desarrollo de Honduras – CESADEH (Honduras), Grupo Sociedad Civil – GSC (Honduras), Red de Mujeres de Santa Bárbara (Honduras), Red de Mujeres Trabajadoras Sexuales – REDMUDE/Restrasex (Honduras), Red Contra la Violencia de Choloteco (Honduras), Red de trabajadoras Domésticas de Francisco Morazán – RDT (Honduras), Grupo Lésbico y Bisexual Litos de Honduras – GLBLDH (Honduras), Movimiento de Mujeres por la Paz “Visitaición Padilla” (Honduras);

Joint Submission 8 submitted by: Boston University School of Law International Human Rights Clinic (United States of America), Consejo Noruego para Refugiados (Norway), Equipo de Reflexión, Investigación y Comunicación (Honduras), Fundación para el Acceso a la Justicia y el Estado de Derecho (Mexico);

Joint Submission 9 submitted by: Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice – IIMA (Switzerland), International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, and Development – VIDES International (Italy);

Joint Submission 10 submitted by: La Via Campesina Honduras (Honduras), FIAN Honduras (Honduras), Centro de Estudio para la Democracia – CESPAD (Honduras), Centro Desarrollo Humano – CDH (Honduras), Plataforma Agraria (Honduras), MILPAH (Honduras), Movimiento Ambientalista Social del Sur por la Vida – MASSVIDA (Honduras), Comité para la Defensa y Desarrollo de la flora y Fauna del Golfo de Fonseca – CODDEFFAGOLF (Honduras), ADEPES (Honduras), Caritas (Honduras), Asociación para el desarrollo de la Península de Zacate Grande – ADEPZA (Honduras), Iglesia Católica Parroquias de Amapala y Langue (Honduras), UTC La Paz (Honduras), Movimiento Ambientalista de Santa Bárbara – MAS (Honduras), Observatorio permanente de derechos humanos del aguan – OPDHA (Honduras), ACI Participa (Honduras), Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras – OCDIH (Honduras);

Joint Submission 11 submitted by: Avocats Barreau Paris (France), Consejo General de la Abogacia Española (Spain);

Joint Submission 12 submitted by: World Organization Against Torture OCMT (Switzerland), Center for Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture and their Families – CPTRT (Honduras);

Joint Submission 13 submitted by: La Plataforma Internacional contra la Impunidad (Guatemala), El Consejo Indígena Lenca (Honduras);

Joint Submission 14 submitted by: Movimiento Amplio por la Dignidad y Justicia (Honduras), Consejo Cívico de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras – COPINH (Honduras);
Joint Submission 15 submitted by: Plataforma Derechos Aquí y Ahora Honduras (Honduras), Sexual Rights Initiative (Switzerland), Comité por la Diversidad Sexual de Honduras (Honduras), Plataforma Somos Muchas (Honduras), Grupo Estratégico por la Anticoncepción de Emergencia (Honduras);

Joint Submission 16 submitted by: Asociación Kukulcan (Honduras), Asociación Colectivo Violeta (Honduras), Asociación LGBT Arcoiris de Honduras (Honduras), Humanos en Acción (Honduras), Grupo Lésbico Bisexual LITOS (Honduras), SOMOS Centro para el Desarrollo y la Cooperación LGTBI (Honduras), Grupo Lésbico Bisexual Trans Feminista Ixchel (Honduras), Asociación de Derechos Humanos Cozumel Trans (Honduras);

Joint Submission 17 submitted by: Aldea Infantiles SOS (Honduras), Asociación Compartir con los Niños (Honduras), Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes – ACJ (Honduras), Asociación Hondureña de Apoyo al Autista – APOAUTIS (Honduras), Asociación Juventud Renovada Hogar Diamante (Honduras), Asociación Libre Expresión (Honduras), Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa – ASJ (Honduras), Asociación Programa Amigo de los Niños / Children International APAN/CI (Honduras), Casa Alianza de Honduras (Honduras), Casa Asti (Honduras), Casa de los Ángeles de Honduras (Honduras), Casa Hogar Temporal Bencaleth (Honduras), Familias Solidarias de Honduras (Honduras), Fundación Hondureña de Rehabilitación e Integración del Límite FUHRIL (Honduras), Instituto Psicopedagógico “Juana Leclerc” IPJL (Honduras), Nuestro Pequeños Hermanos – NPH (Honduras), Olimpiadas Especiales (Honduras), Plan Internacional Honduras (Honduras), Programa de Rehabilitación de Parálisis Cerebral – PREPACE (Honduras), Proyecto Alternativas y Oportunidades (Honduras), Save The Children Honduras (Honduras), Visión Mundial Honduras (Honduras).

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

IACHR-OAS
Inter-American Commission – Organization of American States (United States of America).

2 For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 126.1–126.6, and 124.14–124.16.
3 JS7, p. 4. JS3, p. 18; JS15, p. 11; and JS17, p. 11.
4 JS10, pp. 9–10.
5 ICAN, p. 1.
6 JS3, p. 18; and JS7, p. 9.
7 GICJ, pp. 1–2.
8 JS4, p. 17.
9 AI, pp. 2 and 5.
10 For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.1, 124.3–124.5, and 125.8.
11 JS10, p. 6. See also IACHR, p. 4.
12 GICJ, p. 5.
13 JS12, p. 6.
14 JS4, p. 17.
15 For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.6, 124.7, 124.10, 124.18, 124.20, 124.44, 124.47, 125.3, 125.11, 126.8, and 126.9.
17 JS15, p. 11.
18 Cattrachas, p. 7.
19 JS9, pp. 1–2.
20 JS9, p. 6. See also GICJ, p. 4.
21 JS3, p. 15. JS16, pp. 6–7 and 9; and Cattrachas, p. 1. See also PBI, p. 3; and AHR, p. 3.
22 Cattrachas, p. 2. See also AHC, p. 1.
23 JS16, p. 13. See also JS3, p. 19; JS15, p. 10; AHC, p. 6; and Cattrachas, pp. 5–6.
24 For the relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/30/11, para. 124.12.
27 JS3, p. 2; JS10, pp. 2–4; JS13, pp. 1–2; and JS14, pp. 1–3. See also CS, p. 1; and PBI, p. 2.
28 PBI, p. 6.
29 JS14, p. 7.
30 JS10, p. 9.
31 PBI, p. 3.
32 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.2, 124.21–124.23, 124.43, 124.48, 125.28, 125.36, 125.40–125.43, 125.46, 126.11, and 126.12.
33 JS3, pp. 4–5; JS4, p. 14; JS11, p. 1; JS12, pp. 1 and 5; and IACHR, pp. 2–3, and 12.
34 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
35 JS12, p. 2; JS3, p. 7; PBI, p. 3; and IACHR, pp. 12–14.
36 PBI, p. 5. See also JS3, p. 17; and JS5, p. 3.
37 JS12, pp. 1–2.
38 JS13, p. 4.
39 JS14, p. 7.
40 JS10, p. 9.
41 PBI, p. 6.
42 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
43 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
44 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
45 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
46 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
47 JS12, pp. 1 and 5. See also JS3, p. 4; JS4, pp. 2 and 13; JS17, pp. 7 and 11; and IACHR, p. 5.
48 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.39–124.41, 124.45, 125.2, 125.4, 125.24, 125.25, 125.29–125.35, 125.39, and 125.44–125.45.
49 JS8, p. 1. See also JS3, pp. 2–4; JS6, p. 2; and JS11, pp. 7–8.
50 CICJ, p. 2.
51 GICJ, p. 2. See also JS11, p. 8; and PBI, p. 4.
52 JS3, p. 7. See also PBI, pp. 4–5.
53 JS3, pp. 8 and 15; JS4, pp. 9–10; JS14, p. 4; CPR, p. 3; and IACHR, pp. 2 and 10–11.
54 JS4, p. 6. See also CS, p. 5.
55 JS11, pp. 2–3.
56 JS11, p. 11. See also CS, p. 7.
57 CPR, p. 4.
58 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.42, 124.49–124.56, 125.5, 125.27, 125.47–125.60, and 126.10.
59 JS3, p. 5; JS4, p. 12; JS11, p. 8; JS17, p. 7; and IACHR, p. 3. See also PBI, p. 5.
60 JS3, pp. 8 and 15; JS4, pp. 9–10; JS7, pp. 12–13; JS10, pp. 4 and 6–7; JS11, pp. 2–4; JS14, pp. 3–5; JS16, p. 15; CS, pp. 5–6; CPJ, pp. 1 and 3; PBI, p. 2; and IACHR, pp. 1 and 14.
61 JS10, p. 5; CRP, p. 3; and PBI, p. 2.
62 IACHR, pp. 1 and 15. See also CPJ, p. 1.
63 JS4, p. 8.
64 JS11, p. 6; CS, pp. 2; CPJ, pp. 1 and 4; and IACHR, p. 12.
65 JS3, pp. 15–16. See also JS11, p. 7.
66 PBI, p. 4.
67 CPJ, p. 4; PBI, p. 6; and IACHR, p. 12.
68 JS11, pp. 6–7. See also PBI, p. 4.
69 JS7, p. 13; and PBI, p. 5. See also IACHR, p. 14.
70 PBI, p. 2. See also, JS7, p. 13; and JS10, p. 5.
71 JS7, p. 13; and JS14, p. 7.
72 JS4, p. 10; and CPJ, p. 2.
73 CPJ, pp. 2 and 4. See also JS1, p. 2; JS3, p. 9; and JS4, pp. 15–16.
74 JS1, p. 4; JS4, p. 16; and CPJ, p. 4. See also CS, p. 6.
75 JS10, p. 9. See also JS3, p. 18.
76 CS, p. 4.
77 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.38, 125.22, and 125.23.
78 See JS9, p. 8. See also JS3, p. 18.
79 ECLI, p. 2.
80 JS9, p. 8; and ECLI, p. 3.
81 JS9, p. 9. See also JS7, p. 5; JS17, p. 12; and ECLI, p. 3.
82 JS15, p. 9; AHC, pp. 3–4; and Catrachas, pp. 4–5.
83 JS1, p. 4.
84 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 125.26 and 125.68.
85 JS3, pp. 10 and 17.
86  JS5, p. 3.
87  JS3, p. 11; and JS5, p. 2.
88  JS7, pp. 5 and 8–9.
89  JS4, p. 15.
90  JS2, p. 3.
91  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, para. 125.63.
92  JS15, p. 5.
93  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 125.64, and 125.68–125.71.
94  JS3, p. 10. See also JS10, p. 4; and JS15, p. 5.
95  JS3, p. 17; and JS7, p. 9.
96  JS5, p. 4. See also JS3, p. 11.
97  JS10, pp. 2–4.
98  JS10, pp. 4–5 and 10. See also JS3, pp. 14 and 19.
99  JS3, p. 19.
100  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 125.65, 125.72, and 126.7.
101  JS5, p. 4. See also JS7, p. 10.
102  JS17, p. 12. See also, JS7, p. 12.
103  GICJ, pp. 3 and 5.
104  JS15, p. 8.
105  JS3, pp. 12 and 18; JS7, pp. 10–12; JS15, pp. 7–8; and CPR, pp. 1–2 and 8. See also JS17, p. 11; and
106  CPR, pp. 2 and 4.
107  JS2, pp. 1, 4–6 and 9. See also CPR, pp. 5–6.
108  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 125.6, 125.18, 125.20, 125.61, and 125.63.
109  JS9, p. 2. See also JS8, p. 3; JS17, pp. 4–5; and CPJ, p. 4.
110  JS8, p. 3.
111  JS9, p. 3. See also JS8, p. 12.
112  JS15, p. 3. See also JS7, p. 11.
113  JS17, p. 11.
114  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.9, 124.14, 124.19, 124.24–124.28,
124.30–124.34, 124.46, 125.12, 125.13, 125.37, 125.38, 125.62, 125.66, and 125.67.
115  JS3, p. 12. See also AHC, pp. 4–5.
116  JS3, p. 12. JS7, pp. 1 and 3; JS9, p. 6; JS15, p. 12; CPR, p. 2; and GICJ, p. 4.
117  IACHR, p. 13.
118  JS7, p. 2. See also AHC, p. 6.
119  JS15, p. 15. See also JS3, p. 17; and JS7, p. 3.
120  JS7, p. 5; JS15, pp. 9 and 15; and CPR, p. 8.
121  JS7, p. 4.
122  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.17, 124.36, 124.37, 124.58, 125.15,
125.16, 125.17, 125.18, 125.21, 125.62, 125.66, and 125.67.
123  JS9, p. 5.
124  JS17, pp. 3 and 10. See also JS3, p. 18.
125  JS 3, p. 18.
126  JS3, p. 12; JS8, p. 3; and JS9, p. 2. See also Red COIPRODEN, pp. 1–2.
127  JS9, p. 2.
128  JS17, p. 11.
129  JS9, pp. 4–5.
130  JS17, p. 8. See also JS9, p. 7.
131  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 124.8, 124.57, 124.59, and 125.76.
132  CS, pp. 1 and 6. See also JS3, p. 15; JS14, p. 1; and IACHR, p. 14.
133  JS3, p. 19; JS13, p. 6; JS14, p. 7; and CS, p. 7.
134  JS13, pp. 2 and 4. See also JS9, p. 8; and IACHR, p. 14.
135  JS14, pp. 3–7. See also CS, pp. 5–6; and IACHR, pp. 1–2.
136  JS10, p. 9.
137  For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/30/11, paras. 125.19, and 125.77–125.81.
138  JS6, pp. 4–6. See also JS8, pp. 3–5.
139  JS8, pp. 12 and 14. See also JS3, p. 19; JS6, p. 11; and JS17, p. 12.
140  JS10, p. 5; JS5, p. 3; and JS8, pp. 1–2. See also Red COIPRODEN, pp. 1–2.
141  JS8, pp. 5–6. See also IACHR, pp. 3–4.
142  JS3, p. 6. See also JS8, p. 6.
143  JS9, p. 5.
144  JS8, pp. 7–8.
145 JS8, pp. 9–10 and 13.
146 JS6, p. 8.
147 JS17, p. 12.
148 JS3, p. 19.
149 JS17, p. 13. See also JS8, pp. 6–7.