

Companions of the United States and Canada arrive in Honduras

The largest delegation accompanying electoral and human rights observers will be present in 10 departments

Press conference

Friday, 22 November at 10am

Offices COFADEH , Tegucigalpa

One hundred and sixty people of Honduras Solidarity Network affiliated with organizations in the United States and Canada are serving as election observers and accompanying human rights during national elections . Participants come from organizations, churches , trade unions , indigenous peoples, representatives of sexual diversity and communities who come from USA, Canada, Spain and El Salvador . The Honduras Solidarity Network is a coalition of over 20 NGOs and is the largest group of "International Escort " accredited by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, with a presence in 10 departments.

Our goal is to support the Honduran people in their electoral process and in their quest for democracy and social justice in their country . We are here in good faith as companions. On arrival we met with several irregular situations and complaints, which are investigating .

As a mission we are very concerned about an environment marked by extreme violence and persecution of political opponents , social movements , journalists, defenders of human rights , sexual diversity , trade unionists, peasants and indigenous and black peoples . Elections were held in an atmosphere of intimidation , assassinations of candidates (mayors, councils and leaders) and persecution of human rights defenders human rights .

We are also concerned with the role of the U.S. and Canada on the issue of security assistance and the impact of investments that may exacerbate the crisis and increase repression and exploitation. We note with deep concern the statements by Ambassador Kubiske . We reject any intervention by our governments , whether in the form of statements or actions that may interfere with the will of the vote.

We denounce the media smear campaign against criminalization and defenders of national and international human rights and accompanying the electoral process. Our job is to make visible the human rights violations and report them, so that they are quickly addressed by the relevant national and international bodies . In the end, we hope that this election truly reflects the aspirations of the Honduran people . However, whatever the outcome , we will continue with our eyes on Honduras and continue drawing attention from around the world to human rights violations and the struggles of the Honduran people .