



FOURTH CYCLE OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

Report on the State of Women's Human Rights in Honduras



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Report on the State of **Women's Human Rights in Honduras**

50th Session of the Working Group
November 3-14, 2025

UPR Women's Platform 2025

- Centro de Derechos de Mujeres - **CDM** (Women's Rights Center)
- Red Nacional de Defensoras de Derechos Humanos en Honduras - **RNDDH** (National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders from Honduras)
- Centro de Estudios de la Mujer Honduras **CEMH** (Honduran Women's Studies Center)
- Red de mujeres por el buen vivir - **Vía campesina** (Women's Network for Dignified Living)
- Red de mujeres contra la violencia - Marcala (Marcala Women's Network Against Violence)
- Red de mujeres contra la violencia - Choluteca (Choluteca Women's Network Against Violence)
- Red de mujeres contra la violencia del Triunfo (El Triunfo Women's Network Against Violence)
- Red de mujeres de Santa Bárbara (Santa Bárbara Women's Network)
- Red de Mujeres Unidas por Nuestros Derechos - **REDMUDE** (Network of Women United for Our Rights)
- Red de Trabajadoras Domésticas o del Hogar (Domestic Workers' Network)
- Asociación de Apoyo Mutuo entre Mujeres Honduras - **APOMUH** (Association for Mutual Support Among Women)
- Asociación de Mujeres con Discapacidad y sus Familias Colectiva Mariposa 88 HN - **CM88HN** (Mariposa 88 Collective-Honduras)
- Mariposas Libres (Free Butterflies)
- Unidad de Desarrollo Integral de la Familia y la Mujer - **UDIMUF** (Family and Women's Development Unit)
- Ecuménicas por el derecho a decidir (Ecumenical Women for the Right to Choose)
- Red de abogadas de Derechos Humanos (Human Rights Lawyers' Network)
- Red de Mujeres Rurales de Honduras - **REDEMURH** (Honduran Rural Women's Network)
- Mujeres por la paz Visitación Padilla Padilla (Women for Peace – Visitación Padilla)
- Asociación Calidad de Vida Vida (Quality of Life Association)
- Equipo Jurídico de Derechos Humanos (Human Rights Legal Team)
- OPTIO
- Comité de Familiares de Migrantes Desaparecidos La Guadalupe - **COFAMIGUA** (La Guadalupe Committee of Families of Missing Migrants)
- Comité de Familiares de Migrantes Desaparecidos de El Progreso - **COFAMIPRO** (El Progreso Committee of Families of Missing Migrants)
- Movimiento Diversidad en Resistencia - **MDR** (Diversity in Resistance Movement)
- Muñecas de Arcoiris (Rainbow Dolls)
- Asociación de mujeres lesbianas y bisexuales-

Litos (Association of Lesbian and Bisexual Women)

- Negritudes diversas (Diverse Black Communities)
- Asociación feminista Trans - **AfeT** (Trans Feminist Association)
- Federación Nacional de Madres, Padres y Familias de Personas con Discapacidad - **FENAPAPEDISH** (National Federation of Parents of People with Disabilities in Honduras)
- Comité de Defensa de los Bienes Comunes de Tocoa (Committee for the Defense of Common Goods in Tocoa)
- Fundación San Alonso Rodríguez (San Alonso Rodríguez Foundation)
- Central Nacional de Trabajadores del Campo - **CNTC- El Progreso** (National Federation of Rural Workers – El Progreso)
- Movimiento Ambientalista de Santa Bárbara- **MAS** (Santa Bárbara Environmental Movement)
- Centro de Estudios y Acción para el Desarrollo de Honduras - **CESADEH** (Center for Studies and Action for Development in Honduras)
- Movimiento ambientalista social del sur por la vida -**Massvida** (Southern Social Environmental Movement for Life)
- Foro de Mujeres por la Vida (Forum of Women for Life)
- **JASS** - Asociadas por lo Justo
- Vía Campesina

Inequality: Public Policy and Institutional Framework

1. In 2022, the Secretariat of State in the Office of Women's Affairs (SEMUJER) was established as the central authority for national and sectoral policies aimed at promoting gender justice, equal rights, and opportunities for women. However, the Third Gender Equality and Justice Plan 2023-2033 and the National Plan Against Violence Towards Women 2023-2033 have yet to be approved or adequately implemented. This institutional framework operates within a heteronormative conception of womanhood, which marginalizes gender diverse individuals.
2. While the Ciudad Mujer program has received increased financial support, its services are still confined to six cities, limiting access for women living outside these urban areas, who account for at least 42.8%¹ of the total female population in the country.
3. Affirmative actions have been taken in the allocation of state financial resources to address gender gaps, such as the integration of a gender perspective into the 2025-2027 Budget Policy Guidelines and the creation of

the Gender-Responsive Budgeting Working Group. However, these measures are not enshrined in the Basic Budget Law, which threatens their long-term sustainability.

4. The country has yet to ratify the Optional Protocol to the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**.

Recommendations

- Expand the Ciudad Mujer program to reach more regions across the country.
- Raise awareness of and approve the Third Gender Equality and Justice Plan 2023-2033 and the National Plan Against Violence Towards Women 2023-2033.
- Establish clear regulations to ensure consultative and participatory processes in the development of national gender and equality policies.
- Ensure that SEMUJER's Directorate of Social Inclusion and Gender Equity adopts a rights-based approach that meaningfully includes the diversity of women.
- Integrate a gender perspective into the National Budget Law.
- Ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.
- Launch campaigns to counter stigma and hate

¹ National Institute of Statistics. Características de la mujer hondureña 2024 (Characteristics of Honduran Women 2024). In: <https://ine.gob.hn/Documentacion/Mujerhondurena2024.pdf>

speech against LBT women², with particular attention to transgender women.

Violence Against Women

5. The First National Specialized Survey on Violence Against Women and Girls Aged 15 and Older³ found that one in two women—around 1.8 million—has experienced violence at some point in her life. It also reveals that nine out of ten women never reported the violence or sought help.
6. Between 2021 and February 2025, the Women's Rights Center (Centro de Derechos de Mujeres) recorded 214,168 reports of domestic violence and 230,902 reports of family abuse against women, based on data from the National Emergency System 911⁴.
7. Currently, there are only three specialized courts for domestic violence cases, 33 prosecutors' offices dedicated to women's protection, and 72 prosecutors assigned nationwide⁵. These resources are insufficient

to respond to the growing number of reports and provide adequate protection⁶. Specialized services for addressing violence against women are scarce and concentrated in urban areas. Moreover, public officials responsible for handling these cases often operate with gender biases that normalize violence. Additional barriers include survivors' fear of reporting, financial constraints that limit their ability to reach reporting centers, and the burden of caregiving, which disproportionately falls on women.

8. In 2024, the Law on Women's Shelters for Survivors of Violence was passed. However, no regulations have been issued for its implementation⁷. Currently, there are 10 registered shelters in the country—five managed by women's organizations (OMF)⁸ and five by municipal authorities. The municipally managed shelters are currently closed.
9. Between 2020 and 2024, the Violence

² Lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people.

³ The First National Specialized Survey on Violence Against Women and Girls Aged 15 and Older. In: <https://dashboardenesvmn.ine.gob.hn/home>

⁴ Own analysis based on data from the Women's Human Rights Observatory at the Women's Rights Center.

⁵ Resolution SDGF 150-2025 of the Public Ministry in response to

the information request SOL-MP-3070-2025.

⁶ Southern Regional Network of Women for the Promotion and Defense of Women's Rights. Special Court for Domestic Violence. In: <https://redmujeresdelsur.hn/juzgadoespecial/>.

⁷ Reportar sin miedo. "Las casa invisibles de Honduras" (The Invisible Houses of Honduras). Digital edition January 2, 2023. In: <https://reportarsinmiedo.org/2023/01/02/las-casas-invisibles-de-honduras/>

⁸ Women's and Feminist Organizations.

Observatory⁹ recorded 8,676 forensic medical evaluations related to reports of sexual offenses, with approximately 90.5% of cases involving women. A breakdown by age shows that girls and youth (ages 0-19) account for 64.8% of these evaluations. During the same period, the National Emergency System (SNE-911)¹⁰ registered 4,996 reports of sexual violence, 43% of which involved girls between the ages of 10 and 14.¹¹

10. Women and girls continue to be the primary victims of human trafficking. From 2020 to 2023, the Interinstitutional Commission Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking of Honduras (CICESCT)¹² identified and assisted a total of 394 new victims, with 67% of them being women and girls¹³. Since

2023, there has been no Strategic Plan in place to combat human trafficking.

11. In 2023, CICESCT approved the Fund for Assisting Victims of Human Trafficking (FOAVIT), but it has not yet been implemented due to the absence of regulations or protocols to guide its operation.
12. According to the CDM¹⁴, 1,579 femicides and violent deaths of women were reported between 2020 and February 2025. The Lesbian Network CATTRACHAS documents that from 2017 to 2025, 55 lesbian women were victims of femicide, and it recorded 69 violent deaths of trans people.¹⁵ On June 20, 2023, 46 women were killed in the National Women's Penitentiary of Social Adaptation using firearms, knives, and a fire that was allegedly set by another group of incarcerated women.¹⁶

⁹ National Violence Observatory - Iudpas - UNAH. In: <https://iudpas.unah.edu.hn/areas/observatorio-de-la-violencia/boletines-del-observatorio-2/boletines-nacionales/>

¹⁰ National Emergency System 911

¹¹ Women's Rights Centre. Women's Human Rights Observatory in: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Boletien-Violencia-sexual-2022-2023-WEB.pdf>

¹² It has been operating since 2002, with a mandate to promote, coordinate, monitor, and evaluate efforts to prevent and eradicate human trafficking through the management and implementation of specialized public policies.

¹³ Informe nacional en materia de prevención, atención a víctimas, persecución y judicialización a los delitos de Trata de Personas y Explotación Sexual Comercial en Honduras (National report on the prevention, victim support, prosecution, and

legal action against human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in Honduras). CICESCT 2022. <https://cicesct.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Informe-Nacional-Contra-la-Trata-2022-Honduras.pdf>

¹⁴ Women's Rights Centre. Women's Human Rights Observatory. In: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/mujeres-en-cifras-3/estadisticas/>

¹⁵ Social and Gender Violence Observatory. Catrachas. Muertes violentas de trans según modus 2017-2025 (Violent Deaths of Trans Individuals, 2017-2025). <https://www.cattrachas.org/sistemas?lightbox=dataptem-m6h29ky3>

¹⁶ Contracorriente. "Tragedia en cárcel de mujeres pudo evitarse" (The Tragedy in the Women's Prison Could Have Been Prevented). June 21, 2023. In: <https://contracorriente.org>

- 13.** Between 2012 and 2022, 9,838 people¹⁷, went missing, 38% of whom were women and 37% were children under the age of 14. According to the CDM, between 2020 and September 2024, the Public Ministry received 805 reports of the forced disappearance of women¹⁸. The Women's Forum for Life has reported that in 15% of the femicides recorded in recent years, there were prior disappearance reports¹⁹. In 2024, a draft Purple Alert Bill for locating missing women²⁰ was introduced to

[red/2023/06/21/tragedia-en-carcel-de-mujeres-de-honduras-pudo-evitarse/](https://contracorriente.red/2023/06/21/tragedia-en-carcel-de-mujeres-de-honduras-pudo-evitarse/)

¹⁷ United Nations Development Programme. "Infosegura: Proyecto regional en América Latina y el Caribe" (Infosegura: Regional Project in Latin America and the Caribbean), In: www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2023-07/PNUD-HN-INFOSEGURA-ANALISIS-PERSONAS-DESAPARECIDAS-2022.pdf

¹⁸ Women's Rights Centre. Disappearances of Women in Honduras, 2022-2023. 2023. In: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/cdm-docu-desapariciones-13-DIC04.pdf>

¹⁹ Contracorriente. "El Estado hondureño fracasa al enfrentar desapariciones de mujeres" (The Honduran state fails to address the disappearances of women). February 25, 2025. In: <https://contracorriente.red/2025/02/07/el-estado-hondureno-fracasa-al-enfrentar-las-desapariciones-de-mujeres/>

²⁰ Diario El Heraldo. Digital edition December 12, 2024. "Mujeres organizadas socializan el proyecto de ley Alerta Morada" (Women's organizations promote the Purple Alert bill). <https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/mujeres-organizadas-socializan-proyecto-ley-alerta-morada-AG23164848f>

the National Congress, but it still hasn't been approved.

- 14.** The National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH) reported that between January and October 2022, 255 women were forcibly displaced due to gender-based violence, and it stated that every 12 hours, a woman either becomes a victim of forced displacement or is at risk of being displaced²¹. The Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transfeminist Association reports that 50 individuals were forced to flee the country in 2023 due to gender-based violence. While the Law for the Prevention, Care, and Protection of Displaced Persons was approved in 2023, its lack of regulation has hindered its implementation²².
- 15.** There are currently no policies or strategies in place to prevent, address, or sanction violence against women and girls with disabilities. Similarly, no protocols or protection mechanisms exist to respond to violence in domestic, workplace, public, or private spaces.
- 16.** In December 2024, the National Congress received a proposed Bill to Prevent, Sanction, and Eradicate Violence Against Women

²¹ <https://es-us.noticias.yahoo.com/255-hondure%C3%B1as-desplazadas-violencia-octubre>

²² Diario El Heraldo. Digital edition September 4, 2024. In: <https://www.elheraldo.hn/honduras/falta-reglamento-impide-usar-fondo-para-desplazados-por-violencia-honduras-AA21213047>

in Political Life. However, it has yet to be approved.

- 17.** Women, who already face high rates of domestic violence and femicide, are at even greater risk in a militarized context²³. Since the state of emergency was declared in December 2022, the National Human Rights Commissioner has recorded at least 110 complaints against state security forces for acts of violence against women and girls, including sexual violence²⁴. In 2025, the budget allocated to the Ministry of Women's Affairs (SEMUJER) amounts to just 1.32% of the funding designated for the Ministry of Defense²⁵.

²³ Contracorriente. "Estado de excepción, militarización y redes criminales profundizan la desigualdad de género que viven las mujeres campesinas en el norte de Honduras" (The state of emergency, militarization, and criminal networks worsen the gender inequality experienced by rural women in northern Honduras). In: <https://contracorriente.red/2024/12/10/estado-de-excepcion-militarizacion-y-redes-criminales-profundizan-la-desigualdad-de-genero-que-viven-las-mujeres-campesinas-en-el-norte-de-honduras/>

²⁴ National Commissioner for Human Rights. "Alarmanes" niveles de violencia contra mujeres y niñas en el marco del Estado de excepción" ("Alarming" levels of violence against women and girls within the context of the state of emergency). March 26, 2024. In: <https://conadeh.hn/?p=2549>

²⁵ 2025 General Budget of the Republic. In: <https://www.hondurasysueconomia.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/presupuesto-DE-2025-recortado.pdf>

Recommendations

- Expedite the approval of the Comprehensive Special Bill on Violence Against Women.
- Develop and enact regulations for the Women's Shelters Law.
- Design and implement a Strategic Plan to Combat Human Trafficking.
- Establish and fund Specialized Centers to support women and girls affected by human trafficking, in line with the Women's Shelters Law.
- Strengthen reporting mechanisms, enhance the responsiveness of the Public Prosecutor's Office and the judiciary, and ensure that all women, in their diversity, can live free from violence.
- Incorporate disability-inclusive approaches into policies and legal frameworks for preventing, addressing, and protecting against violence against women.
- Implement ongoing gender-sensitive training for judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials.
- Adapt and apply the Latin American Protocol for Investigating Femicide.
- Enhance specialized mechanisms and institutions for investigating and addressing femicides and violent deaths of women through a gender-sensitive approach.
- Pass the Purple Alert Bill to improve efforts in

locating missing women.

- Ensure the implementation of guiding principles in the investigation and search for forcibly disappeared persons, guaranteeing the right to information and the participation of victims' families throughout the search process.
- Establish specialized criminal investigation bodies for searching missing persons.
- Approve the Bill Against Political Violence.
- Strengthen the 114 Mujer helpline to ensure women have more effective access to support services in cases of violence.
- Create and approve the regulations for the implementation of the Bill on the Prevention, Care, and Protection of Displaced Persons.
- Promote a comprehensive public policy for protecting trans women from gender-based violence, including the creation of safe shelters for survivors.
- Develop human rights-focused protocols for criminal investigations and justice administration concerning murders or assaults against lesbian, bisexual, and trans women.

Health: Sexual and Reproductive Rights

- 18.** In 2022, the Ministry of Health approved the Comprehensive Care Protocol for Survivors of Sexual Violence, which includes emergency

contraception as a preventive measure for pregnancy in the aftermath of a rape. However, its implementation remains insufficient due to the lack of care points and referral systems in public health centers and hospitals for the comprehensive treatment of sexual violence victims²⁶.

- 19.** Obstetric and gynecological violence, reflected in dehumanizing treatment, inadequate resources, and poor quality of care, continues to affect women's experiences within healthcare services.²⁷ Direct assaults are primarily carried out by medical and paramedical personnel involved in sexual and reproductive health care. The state's direct responsibility in institutional obstetric and gynecological violence is evident, not only in the denial or lack of access to certain treatments or medications but also in the

²⁶ Diario Contracorriente. "Médicos Sin Fronteras piden implementación de protocolo en casos de violencia sexual" ("Doctors Without Borders calls for the implementation of a protocol in cases of sexual violence"). <https://contracorriente.red/2024/07/08/medicos-sin-fronteras-pide-implementacion-de-protocolo-de-atencion-en-casos-de-violencia-sexual/>

²⁷ Women's Rights Centre. Boletín: Violencia gineco-obstétrica contra niñas, jóvenes y mujeres en Honduras (Bulletin: Gynecological-Obstetric Violence Against Girls, Young Women, and Women in Honduras). March 2023. In: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Boletin-Violencia-ginecobstetrica-WEB.pdf>

absence of proper infrastructure, gender-sensitive protocols, and the failure to penalize this form of violence²⁸.

- 20.** The Honduran healthcare system lacks a specific protocol for providing differentiated sexual and reproductive health care for women with disabilities, as well as adequate gynecology and obstetrics services²⁹.
- 21.** In Honduras, 42.8% of women live in rural areas³⁰. where accessing healthcare services poses significant challenges due to their limited availability. Basic conditions—such as proximity to clinics, availability of trained medical personnel, and essential medicines—are often lacking. Ensuring

adequate healthcare for rural women requires a differentiated approach that addresses their specific needs and realities³¹. This includes integrating traditional practices, such as midwifery, into the national public healthcare system to expand culturally appropriate and accessible care.

- 22.** According to the Movimiento Diversidad en Resistencia, more than half (53.0%) of LGBTIQ+ individuals surveyed rely on private healthcare services, compared to 33.8% who access public services³². This disparity reflects the widespread discrimination they face in the public system. Transgender women, for example, are often denied medical care because their legal documents do not reflect their affirmed gender identity.
- 23.** Between 2020 and 2023, 94,465 adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 gave birth in Honduras³³. In

²⁸ Ídem.

²⁹ Riadis. Investigación subregional (Guatemala, Honduras y Nicaragua) con enfoque interseccional sobre las barreras que enfrentan las personas con discapacidad en el ejercicio de sus derechos y el nivel de cumplimiento de la Convención sobre los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad (CDPD) y los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) (Subregional study (Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua) with an intersectional approach to the barriers faced by people with disabilities in exercising their rights, and the extent to which the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are being met). 2022 page 126.

³⁰ National Institute of Statistics. Características de la mujer hondureña 2024 (Characteristics of Honduran Women 2024): Encuesta Permanente de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples (Permanent Multi-Purpose Household Survey). <https://ine.gob.hn/MujeresHondurenas2024.html>

³¹ Women's Rights Centre. Situación de las mujeres adolescentes y jóvenes en las zonas rurales: Acceso a sus derechos y formas de organización en sus territorios (The Situation of Adolescent Girls and Young Women in Rural Areas: Access to Their Rights and Forms of Community-Based Organization). December 2022. In: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Estudio-situacion-de-las-mujeres-jovenes-de-la-zona-rural.pdf>

³² MDR and CDM. Informe salud mental y diversidad sexual en Honduras: una exploración (Report on Mental Health and Sexual Diversity in Honduras: An Exploration). 2022. In: https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2022_Informe-salud-mental-y-diversidad.pdf

³³ National Institute of Statistics. Annex 1

2022 and 2023 alone, the Ministry of Education recorded 1,128 cases of adolescent pregnancy in schools, including 243 involving girls under the age of 14—accounting for 22% of the total. During the same period, the Ministry of Health reported 45,823 adolescent births, 2,084 of which were to girls younger than 14³⁴.

- 24.** In 2023, the National Congress approved the “Comprehensive Education Bill for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy in Honduras”³⁵. However, the legislation was later vetoed by the President of the Republic. This veto represents a significant step backward, as it requires the drafting of a new proposal and a two-thirds majority vote (85 of 128 members) in Congress for approval³⁶.

³⁴ Women's Rights Centre. Boletín: Violencia sexual contra mujeres y niñas en Honduras (2022-2023) (Bulletin: Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls in Honduras (2022-2023)) In: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/boletin-violencia-sexual-contra-mujeres-y-ninas-en-honduras-2022-2023/>

³⁵ The primary objective of the bill was to “develop appropriate sexual education curricula to prevent adolescent pregnancies,” and it established, among other things, the promotion of comprehensive education on the prevention of adolescent pregnancies with a rights-based approach across all levels of the educational system.

³⁶ Women's Rights Centre. Violencia sexual contra mujeres y niñas en Honduras, 2022-2023 (Sexual Violence Against Women and Girls in Honduras 2022-2023). <https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Boletien-Violencia-sexual-2022-2023-WEB.pdf>

- 25.** An estimated 22% of women of reproductive age have unmet contraceptive needs³⁷. Although the ban on emergency contraception (EC) was lifted in 2023, its availability in public hospitals and health centers remains limited³⁸. Legal recognition of EC continues to face threats from misinformation campaigns and organized opposition by religious and conservative groups, some of which have filed legal actions demanding its re-banning.
- 26.** The National Family Planning Guidelines³⁹ fail to include informed consent as a prerequisite for performing female sterilization on women with disabilities. This omission not only violates their right to make autonomous decisions about their bodies but also exposes them to the risk of forced sterilization and other non-consensual contraceptive interventions.
- 27.** Between 2015 and 2019, there was an average

³⁷ Guttmacher Institute. Country profile: Honduras. Unmet needs for essential sexual and reproductive health services. <https://www.guttmacher.org/regions/latin-america-caribbean/honduras>

³⁸ Criterio Honduras. Acceso libre y gratuito a la PAE sigue sin cumplirse en Honduras (Free and Unrestricted Access to Emergency Contraceptive Pills Still Unfulfilled in Honduras). Digital edition June 24, 2024. In: <https://criterio.hn/acceso-libre-y-gratuito-de-la-pae-sigue-sin-cumplirse-en-honduras/>

³⁹ Manual para la Atención en Planificación Familiar 2024 (Manual for Family Planning Care 2024). In: <https://honduras.bvsalud.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/MANUAL-PARA-LA-ATENCION-EN-PLANIFICACION.pdf>

of 309,000 pregnancies annually in Honduras. Of these, an estimated 174,000 (56.3%) were unintended, and approximately 53,000 (17%) ended in abortion⁴⁰. Under Article 196 of the Penal Code, abortion is criminalized under all circumstances, and in 2021 its prohibition was enshrined in the Constitution⁴¹. Between 2023 and September 2024, eight women were prosecuted for the crime of abortion, four of whom were convicted⁴².

Recommendations

- Expand the reach of integrated care clinics for survivors of sexual violence and strengthen existing ones by providing additional resources.
- Develop care guidelines focused on eliminating gynecological-obstetric violence, along with administrative mechanisms for

reporting and addressing it.

- Ensure that sexual and reproductive health programs and standards align with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Broaden and enhance access to specialized health services with a preventive approach in rural areas and the communities of indigenous and Black peoples, integrating their knowledge and practices into health care policies with an intercultural perspective.
- Develop and implement specific, comprehensive care standards for individuals with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations, including hormone replacement therapy.
- Revamp and strengthen the women's health statistics system with an integrated, intersectional approach.
- Establish effective mechanisms and strategies to prevent pregnancies among children and adolescents, acknowledging the violent context⁴³ in which pregnancies occur among

⁴⁰ Guttmacher Institute, Honduras country profile, 2022, <https://www.guttmacher.org/regions/latin-america-caribbean/honduras>.

⁴¹ BBC Mundo. "Aborto en Honduras: el congreso blinda la prohibición absoluta del aborto para impedir su legalización" ("Abortion in Honduras: Congress Shields the Absolute Ban on Abortion to Prevent Its Legalization"). Digital edition January 21, 2021. In: <https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-55760365>

⁴² Data from the Electronic Center for Judicial Documentation and Information - CEDIJ.

⁴³ Informe hemisférico sobre violencia sexual y embarazo infantil en los Estados Parte de la Convención de Belém do Pará (Hemispheric Report on Sexual Violence and Child Pregnancy in the States Parties to the Belém do Pará Convention). OEA/Ser.L/II.7.10 MESECVI/CEVI/doc.234/16 Rev.1. The Follow-up Mechanism of the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) on sexual violence against girls and its impact on child pregnancy holds that sexual abuse of minors under 14 years of age constitutes

girls under 14.

- Ensure that emergency contraception (EC) and other contraceptive methods are accessible without discrimination and free of charge at public health facilities.
- Implement comprehensive sexuality education starting from early childhood and make it mandatory in the curriculum at all educational levels.
- Guarantee free and informed consent for any medical intervention or treatment, and abolish forced sterilization and coercive abortion practices affecting women and girls with disabilities.
- Remove the constitutional ban on abortion, end its criminalization, and ensure its regulation within health policies.

Care Work and Care Policies

- 28.** According to the National Institute of Statistics (INE), women make up 54.9% of the Economically Active Population (EAP), with an average national income of 8,857 lempiras (334

prosecutable offenses, as the capacity for consent is deemed invalid: "Any pregnancy in a girl under the age of 14 must be considered non-consensual and, therefore, the result of sexual violence." In: <https://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/mesecvi-embarazoinfantil-es.pdf>

USD)⁴⁴.

- 29.** Currently, there are 103,526 unemployed women, which represents an unemployment rate of 6.5%, compared to 4.4% for men, showing clear gender gaps in access to employment.
- 30.** Honduran women spend 13 more hours than men on unpaid care work⁴⁵ and make up 88.7% of those hours working in paid domestic labor (PDL) nationwide. In rural areas, this number rises to 91.3%. Of those women working in PDL, 98.4% earn less than the minimum wage, and only 3.8% earn between one and two minimum wages⁴⁶.
- 31.** The textile maquila sector plays a crucial role in Honduras' economy, with a heavy reliance on female labor⁴⁷. CODEMUH⁴⁸ has repeatedly

⁴⁴ National Institute of Statistics. Caracterización de la Mujer Hondureña (Characteristics of Honduran Women). 2024 En: <https://ine.gob.hn/Documentacion/Mujerhondurena2024.pdf>

⁴⁵ Madrid, Zoila. Honduras tiene nombre de mujer (Honduras Has a Woman's Name).2020. In: library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/fesamcentral/17231.pdf

⁴⁶ Madrid, Zoila. Honduras tiene nombre de mujer (Honduras Has a Woman's Name).2020. In: library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/fesamcentral/17231.pdf

⁴⁷ Regalado, María Luisa. "La lucha por la salud de las mujeres hondureñas frente a la maquila" ("The Struggle for the Health of Honduran Women in the Maquila Industry"). 2022 In: <https://citra.org.ar/publicaciones/la-lucha-por-la-salud-de-las-mujeres-hondurenas-frente-a-la-maquila/>

⁴⁸ The Collective of Honduran Women /CODEMUH.

reported that maquila workers work under harsh conditions, with long hours, low wages, poor working environments, and pay systems based on production targets. These conditions severely impact their physical health, often causing permanent damage that is not always recognized as a work-related illness. In some cases, victims lose between 20% and 60% of their functional capacity, making it difficult or even impossible for them to return to work or lead a normal life⁴⁹.

- 32.** Sex workers, the majority of whom are women, are in a position of structural vulnerability, facing social stigma, criminalization, and a lack of access to basic labor rights due to the lack of formal recognition of sex work. They often work in the informal economy, with no access to labor contracts or social security, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation, violence, and abuse.
- 33.** The LGTBIQ+ community faces employment discrimination based on their sexual orientation⁵⁰. This reveals the systemic

discrimination and challenges faced by LBT women in accessing opportunities, reinforcing a cycle of inequality and exclusion.

- 34.** Women with disabilities have limited or almost no access to employment opportunities⁵¹. The current Equity and Comprehensive Development Law for People with Disabilities establishes hiring quotas for public institutions and private companies, but there is no mechanism in place to audit compliance.

Recommendations

- Approve the Occupational Health Act.
- Promote the regulation of sex work, recognizing sex workers as legitimate workers with rights.
- Approve Convention 189 to formally recognize the labor rights of domestic and household workers.
- Approve the Integrated Social Protection System Act.
- Design and implement the National Integrated

⁴⁹ CIDH, Report No. 281/20. Petición 1266-15. Admissibility. Luisa del Carmen Alfaro Campos and others. Honduras. October 13, 2020. In: <https://www.oas.org/es/cidh/decisiones/2020/hoad1266-15es.pdf>

⁵⁰ Sandoval, Nelsy. Diagnóstico Situacional de Seguridad, DeSandoval, Nelsy. Diagnóstico Situacional de Seguridad, Desprotección y Exclusión de la Población LGTBIQ+ en Honduras (Situational Diagnosis of Security, Vulnerability, and Exclusion of the LGTBIQ+ Population in Honduras). 2020 In: <https://>

chepes.sedesol.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/RL005_Diagnostico_situacional_LGBTIQ_CHEPES-10-10-20204.pdf

⁵¹ Civil Society Group, FENAPAPEDISH and Honduran Female Filmmakers Collective. Agenda política de mujeres con discapacidad (Political Agenda of Women with Disabilities), page 10. In: <https://gruposociedadcivilhn.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Agenda-de-mujeres-con-discapacidad.pdf>

Care System.

- Conduct labor inspections to ensure compliance with the Equity and Comprehensive Development Law for People with Disabilities, focusing on the employment quota, reasonable adjustments, and the protection of the labor rights of women with disabilities.
- Design, promote, and implement inclusive employment policies that encourage the hiring of LBT women and safeguard against workplace discrimination.

Rural Women and Women from Indigenous Communities

35. In 2024, 43 active socio-environmental conflicts were reported in the country. Of these, 18 were agrarian conflicts related to monoculture and land ownership, 7 involved energy projects, 7 were tied to mining exploitation, 3 concerned the dispossession of ancestral Garífuna lands, 2 were forest-related, and the remaining 6 involved other forms of exploitation and environmental damage, such as waste management⁵².

36. In 2022, all of Honduras was declared free from

open-pit mining⁵³. Since 2024, the country has been introducing the National Policy for a Responsible and Fair Mining Industry. However, the design and discussion of this mining policy do not include perspectives from the sectors and communities most affected. The project also fails to ensure binding consultations, treating them merely as an administrative procedure in the draft law⁵⁴.

37. In Honduras, 2,260,883 women live in rural areas⁵⁵. As of 2023, 46.9% of rural women have no personal income⁵⁶. Of those, 12.5% are employed, while 73% report engaging in unpaid domestic work and subsistence farming.

38. Of the land titled by the National Agrarian

⁵² Cespada. Map of Socio-Territorial Conflicts. In: <https://observatorio.cespad.org.hn/mapa/>

⁵³ Mi-ambiente cancela los permisos de explotación y declara a Honduras libre de minería (Mi-ambiente revokes the exploitation permits and declares Honduras a mining-free zone). Diario Roatán, March 1, 2022. Available at: <https://diarioroatan.com/miambiente-cancela-los-permisos-de-explotacion-y-declara-a-honduras-libre-de-mineria/>

⁵⁴ CESPAD. Análisis de Coyuntura | Una nueva política minera, ¿Honduras la necesita? (Context Analysis | A New Mining Policy, Does Honduras Need It?) December 2024. In: <https://cespad.org.hn/analisis-de-coyuntura-una-nueva-politica-minera-honduras-la-necesita/>

⁵⁵ INational Institute of Statistics- INE. Características de la mujer hondureña (Characteristics of Honduran Women). June 2024. In: <https://ine.gob.hn/Documentacion/Mujerhondurena2024.pdf>

⁵⁶ CEPAL. Gender Equality Observatory. In: <https://oig.cepal.org/es/paises/15/profile>

Institute between 2011 and 2020, only 27.23% was granted to women⁵⁷. Their fight for access to land and resources is closely tied to their call for an end to the criminalization of their efforts to defend their territory⁵⁸.

- 39.** In response to agrarian conflicts, the Agrarian Security and Land Access Commission was created in 2023⁵⁹. However, agrarian conflicts and criminalization continue, especially in latifundia areas where palm oil, sugar cane, and banana plantations dominate. Between June 2023 and July 2024, 33 eviction orders were issued against peasant organizations in these areas, 30 of which were executed violently⁶⁰.

⁵⁷ Women's Network of La Vía Campesina – CODIMCA. Situación actual de las mujeres rurales en Honduras: El acceso a los recursos productivos para garantizar su seguridad y soberanía alimentaria (Current Situation of Rural Women in Honduras: Access to Productive Resources to Ensure Their Food Security and Sovereignty), page 1. 2021. In: <https://codimca.org.hn/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Resumen-Estudio-Situaci%C3%B3n-Actual-de-Mujeres-Campesina-final-Diagramado.pdf>

⁵⁸ Women's Network of La Vía Campesina – CODIMCA. Situación actual de las mujeres rurales en Honduras: El acceso a los recursos productivos para garantizar su seguridad y soberanía alimentaria (Current Situation of Rural Women in Honduras: Access to Productive Resources to Ensure Their Food Security and Sovereignty). 2021 In: <https://codimca.org.hn/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Resumen-Estudio-Situaci%C3%B3n-Actual-de-Mujeres-Campesina-final-Diagramado.pdf>

⁵⁹ Its goal is to comprehensively address the needs and conflicts surrounding agricultural lands.

⁶⁰ Cespada. Observatory of Socio-Territorial Conflict. Monitoring

- 40.** The National Solidarity Credit Program for Rural Women (CREDIMUJER) has been financially strengthened, with its budget increasing to 977,000 USD in 2025⁶¹, helping rural women access credit and revive local economies. However, these resources remain insufficient to meet the historical needs and challenges faced by rural women.
- 41.** Agricultural social assistance programs, such as the productive technology grant, lack a gender perspective, thereby perpetuating the gaps women face in accessing information and productive technologies.

Recommendations

- Ratify ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.
- Implement a process of awareness-building and consultation for the National Policy for a Responsible and Fair Mining Industry, ensuring the involvement of the sectors and

of Evictions. <https://observatorio.cespad.org.hn/monitoreo-de-desalojos/>

⁶¹ Article 210. Presupuesto General de Ingresos y Egresos de la República y sus Disposiciones Generales, Ejercicio Fiscal 2025 (General Budget of Income and Expenditures of the Republic and its General Provisions, Fiscal Year 2025). Decree 4-2025 published in the Official Gazette no. 36,759. February 6, 2025. In: <https://www.tsc.gob.hn/web/leyes/Decreto-4-2025.pdf>

communities affected.

- Carry out a comprehensive agrarian reform with a gender perspective, ensuring rural women's access to and ownership of land.
- Develop a gender-sensitive Agricultural Development Policy aimed at strengthening the country's food sovereignty.
- Strengthen the National Solidarity Credit Program for Rural Women by combining access to credit with technical assistance.
- Create and implement a national policy offering differentiated credit for women across various sectors.
- Adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas.

Women Defenders

42. Between 2020 and 2024, 15 women defenders were killed, including 9 transfemicides. The murders of defenders are direct attacks on their collectives. Taking the lives of their members creates an atmosphere of hostility, fear, and vulnerability within their communities and among other defenders⁶²

⁶² Red Nacional de Defensoras de Derechos Humanos en Honduras, RNDDH. Human Rights Report, 2021 - January to June 2022, page 29. In: <https://im-defensoras.org/public/wuwcnfkbuxhn5pylilosgt0fsi6o/INFORME-FINAL-RED-DDHH.pdf>

- 43.** The National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders of Honduras (RNDDH) has documented 8,034 attacks against 1,792 defenders between 2020 and 2024. Harassment, threats, psychological violence, surveillance, and smear campaigns are the most common forms of these attacks.
- 44.** The years 2023 and 2024 saw the highest concentration of attacks—67%—which is tied to the escalation of agrarian issues, including evictions and the actions of armed groups and paramilitaries who threaten and kill those fighting for land⁶³.
- 45.** 57% of the recorded attacks targeted defenders of land and territory, the environment, and natural resources. These women are actively opposing extractive projects⁶⁴ fighting for land rights, and

⁶³ National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders in Honduras, RNDDH. *Rebeldes y Persistentes: Informe Realidad de las Defensoras en Honduras (Rebels and Persistent: Reality Report on Women Human Rights Defenders in Honduras)*, page 18. 2023. In: <https://redefensorashn.red/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Rebeldes-y-Persistentes-informe-realidad-de-las-Defensoras-en-Honduras-2023.pdf>

⁶⁴ Extractivismo: modelo económico que involucra la extracción intensiva de bienes de la naturaleza con una finalidad exportadora, bajo una lógica monoprodutiva y de economía de enclave, no solo minera e hidrocarburífera, sino también del agronegocio y los biocombustibles, entre otros (Extractivism: An economic model focused on the intensive extraction of natural resources for export, driven by a mono-productive

resisting agroindustry, monoculture, mining, the creation of tourist zones, and energy generation projects in their communities and territories.

- 46.** Of the defenders criminalized in Honduras between 2020 and 2022, 40% are indigenous women, 19% are Garífuna, and 21% are mestizas from rural areas⁶⁵. In addition to facing harassment and physical violence, rural and indigenous women defenders endure persecution, criminalization, and judicial proceedings. During the evaluation period, 103 defenders were judicialized, with forced displacement often being the direct result.
- 47.** Between 2020 and 2024, 46 women defenders were attacked again while under the protection

of the National Protection Mechanism for Human Rights Defenders and Journalists⁶⁶. Although most women defenders at risk are located outside the capital, this mechanism remains centralized. Its ability to respond quickly and implement effective urgent protection measures for at-risk women defenders is still insufficient and inadequate.

Recommendations

- Repealing criminal offenses in the penal code that subject women defenders to judicial processes, such as the “crime of usurpation and occupation of public space,” in particular.
- Decentralizing the Protection Mechanism to make it more effective in safeguarding women human rights defenders and integrating a gender-sensitive approach into its methodology.
- Offering training on international law regarding indigenous and Black peoples for

and enclave economy. This includes not only mining and hydrocarbons but also agribusiness and biofuels, among other sectors). Cabrapan Duarte, M. (2022). Movimiento de mujeres contra el extractivismo: feminismos y saberes multisituados en convergencia (Women's Movement Against Extractivism: Feminisms and Multisituated Knowledges in Convergence). *Debate Feminista*, 64, 56–79. <https://doi.org/10.22201/cieg.2594066xe.2022.64.2287org/10.22201/cieg.2594066xe.2022.64.2287>

⁶⁵ Cejil, IM Defensoras and National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders in Honduras. Perseguidas por defender y resistir, Criminalización de mujeres defensoras de derechos humanos en HONDURAS, México y Nicaragua (Persecuted for Defending and Resisting: Criminalization of Women Human Rights Defenders in Honduras, Mexico, and Nicaragua). August 2024. In: https://cejil.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Perseguidas-por-defender-y-resistir_Honduras-2024.pdf

⁶⁶ The Protection Mechanism for Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, and Justice Operators is the body responsible for conducting risk assessments and making decisions on protection requests submitted to the National Protection System for Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Communicators, and Justice Operators. Article 31, Law for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Communicators, and Justice Operators. In: https://www.tsc.gob.hn/web/leyes/Ley_Proteccion_defensores_der_humanos_periodistas_op_just.pdf

the judiciary and public prosecutors, especially judges and attorneys.

Mujeres con discapacidad

- 48.** In Honduras, there is no reliable or detailed information system on the population with disabilities. Due to the absence of official statistics, it is challenging to accurately determine the number of women with disabilities in the country. In 2021, it was estimated that there were around 265,850 girls and women affected⁶⁷.
- 49.** In 2024, the Disability Rights Bill was introduced in the National Congress and is currently under review. This proposed law aligns national legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁶⁸.
- 50.** Social barriers, along with architectural, urban

planning⁶⁹, informational, and communication barriers, continue to be major obstacles that hinder the full exercise of rights such as employment, education, and healthcare.

- 51.** Since 2022, the General Directorate for the Development of Persons with Disabilities (DIGEDEPDI) has been part of the Ministry of Social Development, despite Legislative Decree 160-2005 specifying that DIGEDEPDI should be an independent and autonomous institution.
- 52.** Since 2023, the administration of financial transfers for disability civil society organizations has been handled by the Solidarity Action Program (PROASOL), which was created with an assistance-based, temporary focus. This poses a risk of losing funding that, by law, should be allocated to disability organizations and managed by DIGEDEPDI.
- 53.** Since 2023, the Public Policy for the Exercise of Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Inclusion has lapsed, and no new policy has been introduced.
- 54.** Women with disabilities lack access to an

⁶⁷ Civil Society Group, FENAPAPEDISH and Honduran Female Filmmakers Collective. Diagnóstico sobre la violencia hacia mujeres en situación de discapacidad (Diagnosis on Violence Against Women in Situations of Disability). 2021. In: https://spotlightconellas.hn/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Diagnostico-violencias-contra-mujeres-con-discapacidad_GSC_ISH.pdf

⁶⁸ PDigital Process. "Personas con discapacidad demandan aprobación de Ley que armonice con estándares internacionales de DDHH" ("People with Disabilities Demand Approval of a Law that Aligns with International Human Rights Standards". December 3, 2024. In: <https://proceso.hn/personas-con-discapacidad-demandan-aprobacion-de-ley-que-armonice-con-estandares-internacionales-de-ddhh/>

⁶⁹ Civil Society Group, FENAPAPEDISH and Honduran Female Filmmakers Collective. Diagnóstico sobre la violencia hacia mujeres en situación de discapacidad (Diagnosis on Violence Against Women in Situations of Disability). 2021. In: https://spotlightconellas.hn/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Diagnostico-violencias-contra-mujeres-con-discapacidad_GSC_ISH.pdf

inclusive education system⁷⁰. While there is a regulation for Inclusive Education for Persons with Disabilities, Special Educational Needs, and Exceptional Talents, the focus remains on special education, and there is no training system for teaching staff on disability issues.

55. No comprehensive protection programs exist for girls and women with disabilities who need support or personal assistance for daily activities. The assistive culture persists through state-issued benefits and capital for entrepreneurship, perpetuating inequality.

Recommendations

- Ensure the effective implementation of existing legislation and regulations, allowing the General Directorate for the Development of Persons with Disabilities (DIGEDEPDI) to operate as an independent and autonomous institution.
- Establish a National Disability Census in Honduras.
- Pass the Disability Rights Law in Honduras.
- Develop, approve, and implement a Public Policy with a gender-sensitive approach to

ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.

- Guarantee access to necessary services and support for persons with disabilities, especially girls and women, including personal assistance.
- Promote public policies that foster the inclusion of LBT women with disabilities, ensuring access to tailored healthcare services and their integration into economic, social, and labor development programs.

Mujeres migrantes

56. Between 2020 and February 2025, 1,146,384 irregular migrants entered the country. Of these, 26% were women, and 9.9% were children. There is no disaggregated data on LBT populations. Currently, there are four Centers for Irregular Migrant Assistance in the country.

57. Between 2020 and January 2025, 255,867 migrants have returned to the country. Of these, 27.3% were women, and of those, 31% were girls⁷¹. The main drivers of migration for women are economic reasons, violence and insecurity, and domestic abuse, in that order.

58. Migrant women face various forms of violence

⁷⁰ Civil Society Group, FENAPAPEDISH and Honduran Female Filmmakers Collective. Agenda política de mujeres con discapacidad (Political Agenda for Women with Disabilities), page 10. In: <https://gruposociedadcivilhn.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Agenda-de-mujeres-con-discapacidad.pdf>

⁷¹ Returned Migrant Assistance System <http://redatam.ods.sedesol.gob.hn/redbin/RpWebEngine.exe/Portal?BASE=SIAMIR&lang=esp>

along their journey, including discrimination, theft, kidnapping, sexual exploitation, human trafficking, disappearance, and femicide. These acts of violence are committed by various actors, including public officials from transit and destination countries (police, military, and authorities), fellow migrants, and criminal groups⁷². The militarization of migration control has also added a layer of risk for women on their migration routes⁷³.

- 59.** According to the National Institute of Migration, when a person returns to Honduras, their movement is not classified as a legal entry and exit, but rather as a return or deportation. This classification impacts migrant women who are seeking asylum or plan to do so⁷⁴. Women

returning to the country with their children are often reprimanded for endangering their children's lives along the migration route and are required to sign a commitment letter, holding them accountable for their children's educational and social reintegration.

- 60.** In recent years, there has been an increase in reports of disappearances along the route through Mexico to the United States. Some estimates suggest that women make up about 16% of the migrant population that goes missing at the borders⁷⁵. The Committee of Families of Missing Migrants from El Progreso has recorded a total of 92 missing migrant women.
- 61.** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Honduran Migrant Protection Office, plays a crucial role in searching for missing migrants in Mexico, enabling the reporting and follow-up of disappearance cases from Honduras. However, the inaccessibility of the institutions involved and the families' socioeconomic vulnerability are major obstacles to both reporting and following up on cases⁷⁶.

⁷² CDM. Returned Migrant Women: An Invisible Violence. 2017-2022. In: <https://derechosdelamujer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Boletin-mujeres-migrantes-WEB.pdf>

⁷³ Institute for Women in Migration IMUMI. Informe alternativo sobre la situación de las mujeres y las niñas en contextos de movilidad 2023 ante el Comité para la Eliminación de Todas las Formas de Discriminación contra las Mujeres CEDAW (Alternative Report on the Situation of Women and Girls in Mobility Contexts 2023 to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women CEDAW). 2023. In: <https://imumi.org/nuestras-publicaciones/informe-alternativo-sobre-la-situacion-de-las-mujeres-y-las-ninas-en-contextos-de-movilidad-2023-ante-el-comite-para-la-eliminacion-de-todas-las-formas-de-discriminacion-contra-las-mujeres-cedaw/>

⁷⁴ CDM. Returned Migrant Women: An Invisible Violence. 2017-2022.

⁷⁵ Institute for Women in Migration, IMUMI, 2023, page 10

⁷⁶ Foundation for Justice. Contribuciones de la Fundación para la Justicia para el Relator Especial de Naciones Unidas sobre migrantes para la elaboración de su Informe sobre el fenómeno de las personas migrantes desaparecidas-análisis de los derechos humanos (Contributions by the Foundation for

Additionally, gaps in access to and use of technology present further challenges.

62. In 2012, the Forensic Database of Honduras⁷⁷ began operations, driven by the Committees of Families of Missing Migrants. As of November 2024, the database had recorded 814 cases of missing migrants and 85 forensic identifications⁷⁸.

63. In 2023, the National DNA Database System

Law was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Honduras⁷⁹. This law grants the Public Ministry the authority to create genetic databases for criminal, civil, and humanitarian purposes. As a result, the state now holds a monopoly over genetic information, excluding the Committees of Families from the search process. However, the law lacks regulations to establish operational guidelines, and so far, no mechanisms for citizen participation in the process have been put in place.

Justice to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants for the Preparation of His Report on the Phenomenon of Missing Migrants – A Human Rights Analysis). 2024.

⁷⁷ Since 2010, committees of relatives of missing migrants, civil society organizations, the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team (EAAF), and the Fundación para la Justicia have spearheaded the creation of forensic data banks for missing migrants in the region. These initiatives aim to facilitate the exchange of information regarding unidentified remains and missing migrants. Functioning as transnational forensic search mechanisms, these data banks cross-reference the genetic information of relatives of missing migrants with DNA profiles from unidentified remains stored in various forensic databases in Mexico and the United States. This coordinated work has enabled the identification of missing migrants in both countries.

⁷⁸ Foundation for Justice. Contribuciones de la Fundación para la Justicia para el Relator Especial de Naciones Unidas sobre migrantes para la elaboración de su Informe sobre el fenómeno de las personas migrantes desaparecidas-análisis de los derechos humanos (Contributions by the Foundation for Justice to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants for the Preparation of His Report on the Phenomenon of Missing Migrants – A Human Rights Analysis). 2024.

Recommendations:

- Remove the letter of commitment from return procedures that holds guardians accountable for putting their children's lives at risk during migration.
- Remove the categories of "deported" or "returned" from migration records.
- Allow the Committees of Families of Missing Migrants to provide legal advice and support to families in the process of reporting

⁷⁹ Decree 57-2023. LAW ON THE NATIONAL DNA DATABASE SYSTEM. Official Gazette published on Thursday, August 31, 2023. In: <https://www.tsc.gob.hn/web/leyes/Decreto-57-2023.pdf>

⁸⁰ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Repatriación de hondureños fallecidos (Repatriation of deceased Hondurans). In: <https://www.consuladohondurasmadrid.es/repatriaciones-de-hondurenos-fallecidos/>

disappearances and requesting repatriation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- Simplify repatriation processes and procedures, reducing economic costs to a minimum and avoiding actions that revictimize families.
- Ensure the legal participation of the Committees of Families of Missing Migrants in the Forensic Data Bank.
- Ensure that return and asylum processes are inclusive and safe for LBT women by offering adequate psychosocial support and legal assistance.
- Ensure the recognition and effective search for missing trans women. This includes the creation of specialized protocols for handling disappearances that take into account the lives of trans women.

