

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

## MEDIA ADVISORY

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### **Honduras: Spokespeople available on human rights situation ahead of elections**

Ahead of the general elections in Honduras on 24 November, Amnesty International has urged presidential candidates to commit to addressing the “dire” human rights situation in the country.

In a [letter to the candidates](#), the organization denounces the escalating levels of violence, widespread insecurity and impunity. Amnesty International also expressed particular concern for the ongoing pattern of “killings, physical attacks and threats” against human rights defenders across the country.

**Nancy Tapias-Torrado**, Amnesty International’s researcher on Human Rights Defenders in the Americas is available for interviews (in Spanish and English) on the organization’s concerns on Honduras and its pleas to presidential candidates.

**Representatives of Honduran Human Rights NGOs** are also available for interviews (in Spanish):

- **Bertha Oliva** is the Coordinator of Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (*Comité de Familiares de Detenidos Desaparecidos en Honduras*, COFADEH). COFADEH is one of the country’s main human rights organizations. Originally set up to work on the issue of enforced disappearance in the early 1980s, in recent years it has been extremely active in documenting and reporting a wide range of human rights abuses.

- **Tomás Gómez** is one of the leaders of the Civic Council of Indigenous and Popular Organizations of Honduras (*Consejo Cívico de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras*, COPINH). His organization has been active since 1993, defending the rights of the Lenca Indigenous People. One of its leaders, Tomás García, was shot dead by the army during a peaceful protest on 15 July. Tomás Gómez is facing trial on charges that seem to have been fabricated.

### **For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:**

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