

PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPUBLICA DE HONDURAS

E-mail: info@presidencia.gob.hn

SECRETARIA DE DERECHOS HUMANOS, JUSTICIA, GOBERNACION Y DESCENTRALIZACION

CORREO ELECTRONICO: karlacueva144@gmail.com

PROCURADURIA GENERAL DE LA REPUBLICA

Correo electronico: pgrdespacho@pgrhonduras.gob.hn

COMISIONADO NACIONAL DE DERECHOS HUMANOS

Correo Electrónico: central@conadeh.hn

OFICINA DEPARTAMENTAL DE INTIBUCA

Correo Electrónico: intibuca@conadeh.hn

To: Honduras authorities ,

RE: Demand for justice for Berta Cáceres and immediate protection of Gustavo Castro de Soto

I am writing to you on behalf of Young Friends of the Earth Europe, which is a network of more than 20 youth organisations across Europe and is a part of Friends of the Earth International - the largest federation of grassroots environmental groups in the world - to condemn the murder of Berta Cáceres Flores. Berta was an internationally renowned human rights and environmental defender from the Lenca Indigenous People, tirelessly fighting for the protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights and for rights of Lenca People to their land and water which was recognized by international organizations including the Goldman Foundation, which awarded her its 2015 environmental prize.

The struggle sustained by Council of Indigenous Peoples of Honduras (COPINH) and the Lenca in defence of their territory remains an example for all the peoples of the world, who are adding their voices in solidarity. We are horrified to witness the continuous threats, today as in the past, faced by people defending both nature and their livelihoods.

In response to the horrifying news of Berta Cáceres's assassination, Young Friends of the Earth groups, and Friends of the Earth groups are mobilizing across the world to demand that this atrocious murder not pass without justice; that proper investigations are carried out and that those found responsible are judged and punished accordingly; that the lives and rights of the Lenca, and the members of COPINH, are safeguarded and guaranteed. Persecution and criminalization of those defending human rights and nature must come to an end!

In addition, we demand the Honduran government safeguard the integrity, freedom and human rights of Gustavo Castro de Soto from Friends of the Earth Mexico, and that his safe return to Mexico is promptly guaranteed.

We also stand in solidarity with the fair demand that all projects denounced by these human rights and environmental defenders are suspended, including the Agua Zarca hydropower project. The whole world is weeping and mourning Berta's death, and will not rest until justice is done.

Your urgent help and cooperation in this regard is most appreciated. Thanking you in advance.

Yours sincerely,
Emma Jayne Geraghty

Coordinator, Young Friends of the Earth Europe