

Ministerin für Menschenrechte
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Dear Minister,

Berta Cáceres, leader and co-founder of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organisations of Honduras (COPINH), was killed in her home on 2 March 2016. Together with COPINH she had campaigned against the construction of the hydroelectric project of Agua Zarca on the Gualcarque River and the Lenca ancestral lands. Due to their work, Berta Cáceres and COPINH have received repeated threats, attempts to criminalise their work, physical attacks and harassment for many years. Nine people have been held on suspicion of involvement in her murder, some of whom are linked to DESA; the company building the Agua Zarca Project, or the Army. However, COPINH believes that there might be more people responsible for the crime.

I would like to urge you to please ensure the safety of COPINH-members according to their wishes and needs, especially in the frame of the trial and after the verdict. Please recognise publicly that the work done by COPINH is legitimate and important. Please also ensure that the investigation is expanded to the people presumably also involved in ordering the murder of Berta Cáceres.

Yours sincerely

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