
[Urgent Action: We urge immediate protection for Gustavo Castro, injured during the assassination of Berta Cáceres](#)

*Embassy of Honduras in Mexico.
Mexican Consulate in Honduras.
Inter American Commission on Human Rights.*

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Early this morning, March 3, 2016, **armed individuals forcibly entered and assassinated Honduran activist Berta Cáceres, founder of COPINH**, in her home in La Esperanza, department of Intibucá in southwestern Honduras.

Our **friend and colleague Gustavo Castro Soto was injured during the attack**. Gustavo is Mexican and a member of the organization Otros Mundos Chiapas/Friends of the Earth-Mexico, the Mexican Network of Mining-Affected Peoples and the Mesoamerican Movement against the Extractive Mining Model (M4). **Gustavo survived the attack and has become a key actor in the investigation into the murder of our friend Berta.**

Berta and Gustavo are two people known for their role in international social and environmental struggles, evidence of their dedication to defending the rights of Indigenous and campesino peoples, who have accompanied **processes of organized and peaceful resistance to prevent territories within Mesoamerica from being appropriated by regional governments at the service of the neoliberal project being implemented through extractivist projects**, considered projects of death.

In the context of the terrible assassination of the much loved Berta Cáceres, we call on the government of Honduras to pay immediate attention, to intervene, and to follow up on this devastating moment for the Honduran people. **We also call for all legal and political measures possible to guarantee the immediate protection of our friend and colleague Gustavo Castro so that, once he has given his testimony to the Honduran state, he can safely return to Mexico.**

Right now, it is fundamentally important to guarantee the life of our colleague Gustavo Castro given the risk he faces a key witness to this horrible assassination.

The security of all of the members of the Coordinating Group of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH) must also be guaranteed.

Attentively,

**Mesoamerican Movement against the Extractive Mining Model
Mexican Network of Mining-Affected Peoples
Otros Mundos Chiapas**

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