

# Newsletter











New Age, No. 304



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#### The voice of the President

The NHRC joins to the condemn of the outrageous and immoral acts committed by the United States government by separating families and violating the human rights of girls and boys claiming their immigrant condition

#### Aguascalientes, Ags. June 20, 2018 DGC/175/18

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) underlines that before the indifference and persecution of authorities, as well as the social rejection and discrimination that face immigrant people in the United States of America, societies and origin countries of that migrant population must begin raising awareness about the magnitude and repercussions of such problems, be more sensitive and adopt proper measures to give an answer to it, facing the critical course that has taken.

This is how Luis Raúl González Pérez, national Ombudsperson expressed it, in the solemn session of the University Council of the Universidad Autónoma de Aguascalientes (UAA), in which the 45th anniversary of its creation was celebrated and was granted the honorary doctoral degree to the humanitarian aid group "Las Patronas" –such organization won the 2013 Human Rights National Award which is granted by the NHRC – and talking about it he said that it has demonstrated the utility that opportune, relevant and concrete actions can have for the attention of a problem, when acting with integrity, responsibility and real social commitment.

He said that it is a group of female Mexicans who have made of service and help to others, not only a vocation but a life commitment, praising within such acts what it means and implies the recognition and respect of human dignity, and he emphasized that giving food and support without profit and gratuitous to who migrates not only brings life to a path where fear, uncertainty and often death are constant. They also bring a message of humanity and hope to who lack of everything.

He reaffirmed that Mexican authorities ought to be coherent to what we demand to American authorities related to the treatment and respect of the human rights of Mexicans in the United States; because those are the basis we must use to treat immigrants who come to our territory. That is why we must be the example, fulfilling what we demand to others: decent treatment, zero tolerance to discrimination, and an appropriate outreach of information they need to demand and exercise their rights.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Co-<u>municados/2018/Com\_2018\_175.pdf</u>



# HIGH EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ARE STRENGTHENED AS SPACES OF RECOGNITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND SUBSTANTIAL EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN: NHRC

#### DGC/152/18 June 1, 2018

The National Human Rights Commission signed the collaboration agreement with CIEG-UNAM, INMUJERES, CONAVIM, ANUIES, ONU-MUJE-RES and RENIES-IGUALDAD for the establishment of the National Observatory for Gender Equality in the High Education Institutions.

In this regard, the national organism emphasized that we must not wait for acting until a case of violence or grievance for gender motives become news. Because high educations institutions are not only knowledge, research, innovation and development houses, but also as consolidated spaces of recognition and validity of human rights, of respect peaceful living of all people, as well as substantial



equality between genders and harmonious and complete development for every person.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/ Com\_2018\_152.pdf

#### **Press Releases**

# THE SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND THE MEDIA IS A FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENT OF ANY DEMOCRACY, THE NHRC AFFIRMS

#### DGC/160/18 June 7, 2018

In the framework of the commemoration of the World Freedom of Expression Day, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) notes that while all journalists do not enjoy suitable conditions to do their activities in a safe environment, we will not be able to climb as a nation to democratic stages where freedom of expression be not only a mere legal aspiration, but an exercised and enjoyed right for all of us.

This national organism has stated on different occasions for generating favorable conditions for the practice of journalism. One of the requirements to reach this goal is preventing and penalizing the aggressions, according to law, for those who have been committed them, bringing the responsible to justice. The recurrence of these conducts and the lack of punishment generates not only a high rate of impunity, but also the existence of entire regions of the country where news are not published because of the four of iournalists and tho

fear of journalists and the media to suffer an aggression.

The killings and disappearances of journalists, as well as each one of the aggressions against communicators committed in the country, show of an especially severe situation regarding freedom of expression, and it requires the commitment of authorities of



three levels of government to end up with this high risk situation and to foster freedom and safety conditions for all of them.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_160.pdf

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#### THE NHRC CALLS UPON FAMILIES, SOCIETY AND AUTHORITIES TO ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST OLDER PEOPLE, AND REAFFIRMS IT'S EXHORT TO THE MEXICAN STATE TO RATIFY THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON PROTECTING THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS

DGC/167/18 June 15, 2018

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) calls upon the Mexican State, families and society to join efforts to achieve the eradication of violence against older people, which on many occasions is imperceptible and even tolerated. It becomes in physical injuries, long time physiological consequences, abandonment, isolation, life quality decline, and even death, which constitutes a violation of human rights of millions of people.

Worldwide, the data about the incidence of this phenomenon, as well as the availability and efficiency of prevention and attention mechanisms are low, meanwhile the denounce rates before justice organisms do not show with certainty the reality, because the victims are afraid or ashamed to ask support from their relatives, friends or authorities.

By commemorating the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, the NHRC emphasizes that ageing does not constitutes a restriction for the enjoyment and exercise of human rights, and reiterates its exhort to the Mexican State to ratify the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons and to implement special measures including gender perspective and prevention of any form of violence against this population. http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_167.pdf



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#### **Press Releases**

#### New Age, No. 304

OMBUDSPERSON OF MEXICO, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, GUATEMALA AND HONDURAS REQUEST THE IACHR, TO ISSUE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO STOP THE SEPARATION OF FAMILIES AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS



#### DGC/174/18 June 19, 2018

The National Commission for Human Rights of Mexico, joined by the National Human Rights Institutions (INDH) of Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras, requested the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), to call the United States Governement to interrupt the separation of migrant children and adolescents from their families. Also, to adopt all necessary measures to protect their rights to personal integrity, family and personal freedom, in relation to the rights of children.

The request for precautionary measures was addressed on June 18, to the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Paulo Abrão, and it was signed by the holders of the National Human Rights Commission of Mexico, Luis Raúl González Pérez; the Ombudsman of Colombia, Carlos Alfonso Nefret Mosquera; the Human Rights Ombudsman of Guatemala, Augusto Jordán Rodas Andrade, and the National Commission of Human Rights of the Republic of Honduras, Roberto Herrera Cáceres, as well as the Head of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Ecuador, Gina Benavides Llerena.

The NIHR noted, "The beneficiaries of these precautionary measures are migrant children and adolescents who arrive with their families to the southern border of the United States of America and who are separated from them by the authorities of that country". In that sense, they all requested the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to call for the United States of America to: a) interrupt the practice of separating migrant children and adolescents from their families, and b) take all necessary measures to protect their rights to personal integrity, health, family and personal freedom, in relation to the rights of children.

For the Ombudsperson the change that the United States had in immigration policy, which stopped protecting the right to family unity and the best interests of migrant children and adolescents, is of particular concern because it decided to use the separation of families as a sanction for people trying to migrate to that country. The heads of the NHRIs welcome the issuance of a communiqué from the IACHR in the same sense of demanding protection for the human rights of minors in the migratory context and opposing the zero tolerance policy, while appreciating the possibility of acting together with the International Organization to strengthen its actions in favor of migrant children and adolescents.

They also indicated in their request to the IACHR that it is especially dangerous that the separation of families has been taken as a mechanism to dissuade people from migrating to that country, facing the danger of being separated from their children if they try. This position of the US government, they said, is inhuman and represents a total disregard for the rights of migrant children and adolescents, as well as for the special need for protection they own.

The States specified that the migration policy of the United States to separate migrant children and adolescents from their fathers and mothers breaks the family bond between them. In this regard, they recalled that the United States has as duty, because of the Article VII of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, to protect children, and to enforce the principle of the best interest of children. In these sense, they assured that the separation of the children of their parents is contrary to the best interest because of the emotional damages that this causes to children and adolescents.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_174.pdf

# THE NHRC PRESENTED AN ALTERNATIVE REPORT ABOUT THE SITUATION OF WOMEN IN MEXICO BEFORE THE CEDAW AND WILL COME BEFORE IT TO SUSTAIN IT ON ITS 70 SESSION

DGC/182/18 June 25, 2018

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for the first time submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) its alternative report, in the framework of the review of the ninth report of the Mexican government before this international body.

The situation of women's rights in Mexico will be assessed before such committee, during its 70 session to take place next July in Geneva, Switzerland. In such document, the NHRC makes observations about the current situation of respect and protection of women's human rights, and presents the actions of this national organism, in especially hard moments, when violence against them has increased.

The alternative report was drafted over a year and contains an assessment of the implementation of the Gender Alerts in different States of the country and the follow-up made by the National System of Prevention, Attention, Sanction and Eradication of Violence against Women, both achieved by the NHRC for mandate of law; furthermore, it resumes the assessments of the "Follow-up Platform to the Normative Harmonization of Human Rights -The Right of Women to a free Life of Violence-", presented by the NHRC on March 8.

It also incorporates the complaints and recommendations on equality issued by the NHRC; as well as the data submitted by civil society organizations and State Human Rights Commissions. The report addresses specific issues like rights of girls and teenagers, female killings, lack of access to justice, risks that face migrant and refugee women, life conditions of those deprived of their liberty, grievances to human rights defenders, political participation, obstetric violence, gender equality sexual diversity and child marriage, among others.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_182.pdf



### THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ASKS THE **USA INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY SEPARATIONS, AS AN ANSWER TO** PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES DEMANDED BY THE NHRC AND OTHER **HUMAN RIGHTS NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

DGC/187/18 June 28, 2018

On June 22, 2018, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) formally asked the government of the United States of America to send detailed information about the location and treatment given to immigrant girls, boys and teenagers separated from their families, as well as the reunification process that it will implement to reunite them again with their relatives.

This information request takes place as an answer to an application of precautionary measures promoted by the NHRC, together with other human rights national institutions, which came before the AICHR on June 18 asking the Inter-American Commission to demand the United States of

America to stop separating boys, girls and teenagers from their families, and to adopt necessary measures to protect their rights to personal integrity, health, family and personal freedom, related with childhood rights.

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Comunicados/2018/Com\_2018\_187.pdf



## Recommendations

Responsible Authority	lssue	Recommendation
Ministry of Energy	About the case of infringement of the human right to previous, free, informed, adequate culturally and	RECOMMENDATION No. 17/2018 June 15, 2018
SENER SECRETARÍA DE ENERGÍA	of good faith consultation dama- ging the human rights of collective property and cultural identity of the Mayo People and the Yaqui	
	tribe, because of the Sonora gas pipeline, segment Guaymas el Oro.	http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/ Recomendaciones/2018/Rec_2018_017.pdf

#### **Responsible Authority**

Government of the State of Jalisco



About the lack of control in the security of the Precinct of sentenced of the State of Jalisco by penitentiary authorities, as well as overcrowding condition and self-government.

Issue

# Recommendation

RECOMMENDATION No. 18/2018 June 28, 2018

http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/ Recomendaciones/2018/Rec\_2018\_018.pdf

#### Recommendations

Responsible Authority	lssue	Recommendation
Mexican Social Security Institute	About the case of violation of the right to protection of health, for inadequate medical attention, in detriment of V1, in General Hos- pital Zone 8, of the Mexican Social Security Institute, in Uruapan, Michoacán	RECOMMENDATION No. 19/2018 June 29, 2018 http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/ Recomendaciones/2018/Rec_2018_019.pdf

# Article of the month

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# Latin America and the Caribbean, leader in the fight against plastic bags

The Congress of Chile passed on May 30 the prohibition of plastic bags of a single use in the entire national territory, putting the country at the Forefront of the fight for a world without plastic pollution. Other countries in Latin America and The Caribbean are implementing taxes, restrictions and prohibitions to combat plastic bags and its damaging impacts on oceans and marine species. Latin America and The Caribbean cannot sit back facing plastic pollution: it is one of the regions of the world with bigger biodiversity; it holds 16 million square kilometers of sea and is the source of 24% of global fishery. The governments of the region have been applying bold policies against pollution.

Antigua and Barbuda was the first country in the continent prohibiting plastic bags in 2016. A bit later, Colombia did the same prohibiting also in 2016

the circulation plastic bags under 30x30 centimeters and a year later imposed a tax to bigger size bags.

At the beginning of 2018, Panama became the first country in Central America in prohibiting by law politiliene bags. Other countries are also part of this regional effort like Costa Rica, which has a national strategy to reduce drastically the use of disposable plastics by 2021. Ecuador has just launched a progressive restriction of straws, bags and disposable bottles in the remote Galápagos Islands to make the archipelago a plastic free zone.

https://www.unenvironment.org/es/news-and-stories/reportajes/ america-latina-y-el-caribe-lider-en-la-lucha-contra-las-bolsas



#### **Book of the month**



#### REFUGEES

Sami Nair

Number of pages: 192 pages. Binding: Soft cover Publisher: CRITICA Language: CASTILIAN ISBN: 9788416771097

An educational, strict essay, appointed to raise awareness. What is happening some time ago in the borders of Europe and especially since the summer of 2015 was predictable and it announces a new era of management of migratory flows. The main lesson is that since the escape of millions of people from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as from Eritrea, Somalia, Nigeria, Libya, the distinction between economic immigrants and asylum petitionary is fading.

Facing the arrival of hundreds of thousands of refugees, Europe is treading on its fundamental values of human solidarity, being incapable of elaborating a cooperative strategy of its partners.

https://www.casadellibro.com/libro-refugiados/9788416771097/3033454



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# Newsletter

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