

# IRTF

## InterReligious Task Force on Central America

3606 Bridge Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
tel: 216.961.0003 fax: 216.961.0002 e-mail: [irtf@igc.org](mailto:irtf@igc.org)

December 4, 2009

via fax: 011 504 239 3298

Mr. Roberto Micheletti  
*de facto* President of Honduras

Dear Sir:

We are deeply concerned for the safety of freelance journalist, **Luis Galdamez**, who presents a daily program, "Behind the Truth" ("Tras La Verdad") for the national independent radio station, Radio Globo. He has received a number of death threats via text messages and anonymous calls to his mobile phone since he has been broadcasting in support of Honduras' elected president, Manuel Zelaya. One message said, "We've got you now, this time you won't get away...you have been warned. We know where you live and we know where your sons go to school. . . we are watching you and your whole family, if you don't keep quiet we will kill you ..."

Since September 21, Luis Galdamez has been inside the Brazilian Embassy because he fears for his life. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) has called on Honduran authorities to protect him; however, no action has been taken in this regard.

These incidents are among a number of attacks on media workers since President Zelaya's ouster on June 28. On November 5, an explosive device thrown at the office of radio station HRN injured two people and damaged broadcasting equipment. On November 6, the cutting of a fiber optic cable at TV channel Canal 36 is believed to be part of an attempt by the authorities to impede their ability to broadcast. No one has been held to account for these attacks.

### **We strongly urge that you**

- act immediately to give all necessary protection to Luis Galdamez in accordance with his wishes;
- call for an independent, thorough and impartial investigation into the threats against Luis Galdamez, make the results public and bring those responsible to justice.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
Coordinator

cc: NGO C-Libre, ~ via fax 011.504.239.8246  
Eduardo Enrique Reina, Honduran Ambassador to the US ~ via fax  
Hugo Llorens, US Ambassador to Honduras ~ via fax  
Rebecca Valerin, Honduras Desk, US State Dept ~ via fax  
Christopher Webster, Central American Affairs, US State Dept ~ via fax  
Paolo Carozza, US member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ fax: (202)458-3992  
US Senators Brown & Voinovich ~ via email  
US Representatives Bocchieri, Fudge, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Latta, Ryan, Space, Sutton, Wilson ~ via email

UA309/09 Honduras

**The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter:**